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Limited access and widening credit gap

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A STEP CLOSER

Djokovic moves into the quarterfinals

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Trump issues threat of extra 10% tariffs on BRICS nations

Agence France-Presse
RIO DE JANEIRO

U.S. President Donald Trump has threatened China, India, and some of the world's fastest-emerging economies with higher import tariffs, hitting back at BRICS's criticism of his trade policies as the 11-nation bloc concluded its two-day summit in Rio de Janeiro on Monday.

On Sunday, leaders of the bloc – which also includes U.S. allies Brazil, Saudi Arabia, and Indonesia – described Mr. Trump's stop-start tariff wars as indiscriminate, damaging, and illegal, drawing a quick rebuke from the U.S. President. "Any Country aligning themselves with the Anti-American policies of BRICS, will be charged an ADDITIONAL 10% Tariff. There will be no exceptions to this policy," he wrote on social media.

Defending the bloc, which accounts for about half of the world's population, as "an important platform for cooperation between emerging markets ", China on Monday insisted that BRICS was not seeking confrontation with the U.S.

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SC to hear on July 10 pleas against Bihar roll revision

Several Opposition parties, NGOs, and activists move top court challenging the legality of the exercise; they say crores of people in the poll-bound State face prospect of disenfranchisement

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to hear urgently on Thursday a batch of petitions challenging the legality of the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls being conducted by the Election Commission in poll-bound Bihar.

The petitions were mentioned for early hearing before a Bench of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Joymalya Bagchi by a battery of lawyers, including senior advocates Kapil Sibal, A.M. Singhvi, Gopal Sankaranarayanan, and Shadan Farasat. The Bench asked the petitioners to supply the Centre, the Election Commission, the Attorney-General, and other respondents with copies of their petitions in advance.

The petitioners for whom the mentioning was made in the morning included Rashtriya Janata Dal MP Manoj Jha, Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra, the non-governmental organisations Association for Democratic Reforms and People's Union for Civil Liberties, and activist Yogendra Yadav.

However, the day saw the challenge against the exercise gain further momentum, with leaders from various other Opposition parties, including K.C. Venugopal of the Congress, Supriya Sule of the Nationalist Congress Party (SP), D. Raja of the Communist Party of India, Harendra Malik of the Samajwadi Party, Arvind Sawant of the Shiv Sena (UBT), Sarfraz Ahmed of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, and Dipankar Bhattacharya of the CPI(ML) Liberation moving the top court.

Mr. Sibal informed the Bench that an urgent hearing and an interim relief of stay of the June 24 notification announcing the SIR were necessary as crores of voters from marginalised sections of society had been put on a tight leash to produce documents to prove their domicile or face the prospect of disenfranchisement.

Serious questions: The petitioners urged the SC to ensure that the EC explain its 'hasty' decision. ANI

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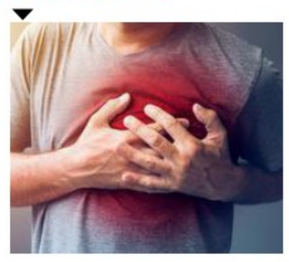
Immediately stop roll revision, say INDIA leaders

PATNA
Demanding a halt to the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in poll-bound Bihar, INDIA bloc leaders on Monday said the Election Commission (EC) was in a confused situation. The INDIA bloc coordination committee, headed by Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav, asked the EC to stop the SIR immediately and continue it after the election. » PAGE 11

NEARBY



Heart attack deaths of young people notifiable

BENGALURU
The Health Department has declared sudden heart attack deaths among people below the age of 45 as 'notifiable' on the basis of a recommendation by the expert committee that was set up to study the link between COVID-19 vaccination and sudden cardiovascular events. » Page 6

Panel for spliting BBMP into five corporations

BENGALURU
Brand Bengaluru Committee, that presented the first draft of the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill, 2024, that provided for multiple corporations in the city's civic limits, has proposed that the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) be divided into five corporations. The committee made a presentation with the proposed boundaries of the five corporations to Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Home Minister G. Parameshwara on Monday.

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Myanmar ethnic crisis drives 4,000 to Mizoram

Displaced population: Children from Myanmar families who have taken refuge in Mizoram.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

A battle between two ethnic armed groups in Myanmar has forced some 4,000 Chin people in the country to take refuge in Mizoram.

Officials in Champhai district of Mizoram said waves of Myanmar nationals began crossing a border bridge at Zokhawthar and the Tiau river since the gunfights broke out on July 3.

The river demarcates a part of the 510-km border between India and Myanmar.

"The refugees are taking shelter in the houses of their relatives, schools, and community halls. They are concentrated in the Zokhawthar and Vaphai villages," a district official said, declining to be quoted.

Volatile situation

"Given the volatile situation across the border, we have not asked these refugees, many of them women and children, to go back. Our villagers and members of NGOs such as the Young Mizo Association are looking after the basic needs of the refugees," the official said.

On Sunday, Mizoram Chief Minister Lalduhoma's political adviser Lalmuanpuia Punte reportedly visited the border area to hold talks with the leaders of the two extremist groups for cessation of violence.

The Chins of Myanmar, and the dominant Mizos of Mizoram are members of the greater Zo community, as are the Kukis, Zomis, Hmars, and Kuki-Chins (Bangladesh). It is not unusual for these ethnic groups to have relatives on either side of the border.

According to community elders in Zokhawthar, the refugees started trickling in after observing the movement of armed men in areas close to the border less than a week ago. The "warning shots" erupted into a fierce gunfight on Saturday.

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Web portal, apps to make Census data 'available early': RGI

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Data from the 2027 Census will be "available early" as the exercise will be conducted digitally, the Registrar-General of India (RGI) and Census Commissioner said on Monday.

The country's "first digital Census" will be conducted in two phases, and "for the first time, technology will be used to collect data and send it electronically to the central server", the RGI said in a post on X, adding this will "result in early availability of Census data".

After the previous Census exercise concluded, it took nearly two to three years for primary data to be available. The RGI said Census 2027 would offer the option of self-enumeration "through a dedicated web portal".

All States have also been asked to appoint nodal officers for the exercise, and "residents will be able to self-enumerate in both phases", the RGI said.

"Data will be collected using Mobile Apps (both Android & iOS) in English, Hindi, and regional languages. Enumerators/Supervisors will use their own mobile device for data collection," the RGI added.

- Mobile apps to collect data in English, Hindi, and other regional languages
- Central server to facilitate early availability of primary data
- Dedicated portal for residents to self-enumerate

The Census will have a focused publicity campaign for awareness, inclusive participation, last-mile engagement, and support for field operations. "It'll emphasise on sharing accurate, authentic & timely information ensuring cohesive & effective outreach effort," the RGI said, while adding that "caste of household members will be enumerated in the ensuing Census".

According to the constitutional mandate, the first Census after 2026 can be used as the basis to redraw Lok Sabha constituencies. The next general election is due in 2029.

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Washington — the unsung hero in India's breach of Fortress Edgbaston

The all-rounder's consistent show in the longest format of the game has been a big blessing for the team; his contribution in the second Test, with the willow as well as the red cherry, leaves the management with a happy headache for the third match and beyond

R. Kaushik
LONDON

REUTERS

Ben Stokes shook his head in frustration. Maybe even a little disbelief. For an hour and a half, having embraced a stonewalling avatar, England's captain had kept India's wicket-hungry bowlers at bay when, in the last over before lunch, he was dismissed leg before, by Washington Sundar.

Washington was the last of the five bowlers Shubman Gill pressed into operation on Sunday, the final day of the second Test at Edgbaston. Akash Deep had given India two crucial successes after play began 100 minutes late owing to the weather, but Stokes and Jamie Smith were then defiant. Deep and Prasidh Krishna, Mohammed Siraj and Ravindra Jadeja, were negated with application and focus. India weren't beginning to get itchy, but a blow before lunch... That would be quite something, wouldn't it?

And so, with a little over five minutes to the interval, Gill brought on Washington. It made sense for so many reasons, not least because he would be bowling to a left-hander, with a bit of rough outside the off-stump to play with.

Washington had bowled 14 overs in England's first innings, without any numerical success. This one over before lunch was seen more as an exploratory exercise, to get him into the action more than anything else. That first over was tidy, no more. Then, Jadeja continued his spell from the Birmingham End, ostensibly the last over before lunch was to be taken at 2.30 pm.

Flying under the radar

Cricket is a game of partnerships. The most obvious one pertains to batting and Jadeja was involved in two huge partnerships with Gill - 203 for the sixth wicket in the first innings, 175 for the fifth wicket in the second. But the bowling partnership doesn't get as much credit as its batting counterpart, or as much as it should. In normal course, his six deliveries should have been the last six before the break. But Jadeja bowls in overdrive. In a little over a minute, he had whirled through his over and therefore allowed Washington one more crack at England's embattled skipper.

It hasn't been a summer of batting plenty for the left-hander, whose four preceding scores in Test cricket since late May read 9, 20, 33 and 0 (in the first innings in Birmingham, when he was caught behind off a Siraj lifter, first all). Maybe he had mentally switched off, maybe he was so sure Jadeja's would be the last over before lunch that he allowed his intensity to slacken. Or maybe we are doing Washington a disservice simply because it *appears* as if he doesn't put a great deal of work on the ball and yet often comes up with grand results.

Of the spinners on view in Birmingham, including England's Shoaib Bashir and better-than-part-timer Joe Root, Washington was the one who got the most drift. Perhaps that also worked in the deep recesses of Stokes' mind. To the third delivery of what would certainly be the final over before temporary respite for the hosts, Stokes thrust his right foot forward, the bat trailing in its wake. Delivered from round the stumps, the ball drifted in and held its line on pitching. It's possible Stokes played for non-existent turn but whatever the reason, he met the ball, with his pad, on the move.

It takes a lot to get Washington excited. Such as pinging Ben Stokes in front on the final day of a Test during a push for victory.

The usually controlled young man couldn't hide his delight, whirling towards umpire Saikat, his appeal full of belief and conviction. The Bangladeshi's index finger went up and after a brief consultation with Smith, Stokes chose to review the decision. In hope. In desperate hope. He was *willing* the ball to go on with the arm and miss leg, but in vain. As the three reds flashed on the giant screen, Washington was mobbed by his teammates for a second time in 30 seconds, the game all but in India's bag as England lost their sixth wicket, their captain, and their final recognised pair was dislodged.

Huge moment

To say that that was the turning point of the chase will be neither accurate nor warranted, but it was a huge moment nevertheless in the context of the game. Deep's twin strikes had settled whatever early nerves there might have been, but India might have started to second-guess themselves had Stokes and Smith, who smashed an otherworldly unbeaten 184 in the first essay, been unseparated at stumps. The dressing room might have been a slightly tense place despite more than 50 overs available to them to winkle out the last five wickets. There might have been a few 'what-ifs' thrown in. With that one ball, which was only possible due to Jadeja's manically swift over, Washington had lifted the mood, made sure that the team had a happy lunch, that grumpy faces and furrowed brows were replaced by broad smiles and a sunny outlook.

It wasn't Washington's only contribution in a match that heralded his umpteenth comeback to the Test XI. His inclusion itself had sparked healthy, sometimes heated, debate.

Popular opinion

Popular opinion demanded the inclusion of Kuldeep Yadav, the left-arm wrist-spinner, to offset the unavailability of Jasprit Bumrah, rested to manage his body and space out his workload. Washington wasn't even thought to be in the mix until, two days before the game, assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate acknowledged that playing two spinners was a 'definite' option but that who those two spinners would be was the big question. That was the first indication - to the outside world - that the Tamil Nadu lad was seriously being considered. The team sheet at the toss confirmed the same, the all-rounder's inclusion as much to do with the depth in batting he provided at No. 8 as his incisiveness with the ball.

The wisdom of packing the batting line-up when the need was for wicket-taking options was discussed threadbare outside the dressing room. Inside it, its occupants were convinced the right call had been made, a conviction that grew following the Gill-Washington alliance in the first essay. Almost everyone knows by now that even though India haven't used him in that capacity, Washington was a specialist, top-order batter until a few years back until successive teams started to view him as an off-spinner who could bat.

If Washington felt his batting wasn't getting the credit it deserved, there was nothing he could do other than keep stacking up the big runs that would, hopefully, eventually, alter misconceptions.

It was on the back of his second highest first-class score, a fluent 152 against Delhi in the Ranji Trophy in October last year when he put on 232 for the second wicket with opener Sai Sudharsan, that the 25-year-old was recalled to the Test XI for the first time in three and a half years. Ironically enough, as an off-spinner who could bat. In his first Test since March 2021, he batted at No. 9 and No. 6 respectively against New Zealand in Pune, and at No. 9 and No. 8 in the next Test in Mumbai. 18*, 21, 38* and 12 as the rest of the batting imploded against Mitchell Santner and Ajaz Patel weren't shabby, but also in those two Tests, the off-spinner in Washington shone through as he comfortably outbowled 500-wicket man and Tamil Nadu senior R. Ashwin.

GETTY IMAGES

With 16 wickets in the two Tests, his status as 'bowling all-rounder' - we love these tags, don't we, taking some kind of perverse pleasure in pigeonholing people? - was solidified, never mind if his Test average with the bat is in the 40s. But Washington couldn't care less. He wanted to play Test cricket - batter, bowler, all-rounder, whatever, just pick me please, he might well have said - and when he got his chance at Edgbaston, he was ready.

Gill produced some of the most spectacular shot-making of the Test, as you would expect of someone who smashed 430 runs across two innings, with 43 fours and 11 sixes, but the two strokes that remain fresh in memory came off Washington's willow.

In the first innings, as India looked to pile on the runs, Washington was given a tough time before lunch by Josh Tongue, the tall right-hander who had caught Jadeja by surprise with extra bounce and adopted the same approach against the taller left-hander.

After the break, Washington looked more at home. As Tongue bounced him once too many times, he walked inside the line of the ball and played the most glorious of pulls that kept going and going deep into the stands behind fine-leg. It took one back to the Gabba and January 2021 when, in a tense run-chase, debutant Washington had played an eerily similar stroke off the bowling of Pat Cummins, his left leg raised and parallel to the ground, the right leg swivelling with grace and balance.

In the second innings, with India pushing for quick runs and the declaration imminent, Washington came very late to the party but played the most stunning stroke, staying low while reaching out to Root's off-spin, breaking his wrists and effortlessly driving the ball over cover.

Gill had caressed numerous cover-driven fours, but this one was laced with the left-hander's added elegance. The apologetic dismissal of the ball sent it flying over the boundary ropes for a sumptuous, delightful six. Oh, the magic, the melody.

From a fringe candidate, Washington has emerged as a serious contender for the three remaining Tests. Gill and head coach Gautam Gambhir aren't averse to shaking up the established order, inasmuch as any such thing exists currently in this young Test collection, but they will have to think twice, and then some more, before opting to look beyond Washington at Lord's and thereafter.

After all, this 'bowling all-rounder' boasts a batting average of 43.50 and a corresponding bowling counterpart of 28.53 from ten Tests. Capital from Washington, did ya say?

THE GIST

- Even as Washington heralded his umpteenth comeback to the Test XI, his inclusion sparked healthy, sometimes heated, debate
- The 'bowling all-rounder' boasts a batting average of 43.50 and a corresponding bowling counterpart of 28.53 from 10 Tests
- From a fringe candidate, Washington has emerged as a serious contender for the three remaining Tests

State commercial vehicle operators demand inclusion in annual FASTag scheme

MoRTH recently unveiled an annual FASTag pass scheme for non-commercial vehicles at a fixed cost of ₹3,000, aiming to streamline toll payments and promote digital transactions

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A newly announced toll concession for private vehicle users has sparked discontent among commercial transport operators in Karnataka, who argue that they too deserve similar benefits given their heavy use of national highways.

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) recently unveiled an annual FASTag pass scheme for non-commercial vehicles at a fixed cost of ₹3,000, aiming to streamline toll payments and promote digital transactions. The scheme, set to take effect on August 15, 2025, promises significant savings for private motorists, but has left the commercial vehicle sector feeling sidelined.

The transport unions representing commercial vehicle operators such as cabs, taxis, buses, trucks, goods carriers, and maxi-cabs have raised strong objections to their exclusion. These operators argue that they traverse highways far more frequently and incur far higher toll expenses annually, making them deserving of concessional toll packages.

"Private vehicles don't frequently use national highways. They typically hit highways only during long-distance travel. In

Transport unions representing commercial vehicle operators such as cabs, taxis, buses, trucks, goods carriers, and maxi-cabs have raised objections to their exclusion. THE HINDU

contrast, commercial vehicles, whether it's a long-haul lorry, intercity cab, or a tourist bus, cover hundreds of km every single day. They cross numerous toll plazas across multiple States. If toll relief is really the intention, then commercial vehicles should be the first to benefit," Radhakrishna Holla, president of the Karnataka State Travel Operators Association (KSTOA) told *The Hindu*.

Formal request

According to Mr. Holla, the KSTOA has written a formal request to Union Minister Nitin Gadkari urging that the annual FASTag scheme be extended to commercial vehicles as well. "Taxi drivers and public transport providers are among the most frequent users of highways. Even a single cab operator ends up paying more than ₹30,000 annually in toll. A package like this could significantly reduce their burden, especially when fuel and maintenance costs are already skyrocketing," he added.

Nataraj Sharma, president of the Federation of Karnataka State Private Transport Associations, described the toll expenses for commercial vehicles as "exorbitant and unsustainable." Speaking to *The Hindu,* Mr. Sharma said, "We end up shelling out thousands of rupees every year, just on toll alone. For fleet owners with dozens of vehicles, this cost is multiplied several times over.

It's only fair that the government offers similar annual pass options for commercial vehicle operators. These businesses form the backbone of logistics, public transport, and urban mobility.

Without support, many small-scale operators will find it difficult to stay afloat."

June 18

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari announced on June 18 that users of private vehicles will soon be able to make up to 200 highway trips in a year by paying just ₹3,000 in toll fees. "For a long time, there were concerns over toll fee. This decision will provide a big relief to the public. The average toll fee will come down to ₹15 from ₹50 to ₹100," Mr. Gadkari said in a video message posted on X.

According to him, the new pass available exclusively to private four-wheelers like cars, jeeps, and vans will slash toll costs. The toll fees for 200 trips, which was ₹10,000 currently, would be brought down to ₹3,000 after the annual pass is rolled out, resulting in a huge savings for the public, he said.

The government has amended Rule 9 under the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Rules, 2008, to implement the annual pass system.

A dedicated portal for purchasing and renewing the pass will be made available on the Rajmarg Yatra app as well as through the websites of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and MoRTH.

HC notice to BMRCL on Tejasvi's plea to make fare fixation panel's report public

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Monday ordered issue of notice to the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd, and the State and Central governments on a petition filed by Tejasvi Surya, Bengaluru South MP, seeking direction to BMRCL to make public the report of Fare Fixation Committee (FFC) of metro rail based on which metro fares were increased in February this year.

Justice S. Sunil Dutt Yadav passed the order after MP's advocate pointed out to the court that BMRCL did not upload a copy of the FFC report on its website or provided a copy of the report to the general public or the media organisation, who have sought a copy of the report through RTI Act.

Tejasvi Surya, MP, pointed out in the petition that in the past, Delhi, Mumbai, and Hyderabad metro rail corporations had duly published such reports on their websites SUDHAKARA JAIN

It has been contended in his petition that BMRCL being a joint venture between the Union government and the Government of Karnataka that uses public funds has a constitutional duty to function transparently without claiming immunity from its obligation to disclose the FFC report when the decision to hike fare affects the general public, stems from the FFC report.

Other corporations

Also, the MP pointed in the petition that in the past, Delhi, Mumbai, and Hyderabad metro rail corporations have duly published such reports on their websites for the benefit of general public thereby reflecting transparency in public governance and decision-making process.

Ministerial act

Stating that there exists no distinguishing factor between BMRCL and other metro rail corporations to justify BMRCL's refusal to publish the FFC report, it has been contended in the petition that the report being a ministerial act requiring no exercise of discretion at the hands of BMRCL, no discretionary power can be claimed by it to withhold publication as no such provision exists in the Metro Railways (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2022. The FFC was headed by R. Tharani, a retired judge of the Madras High Court.

Three Nigerian nationals arrested for peddling MDMA crystals; drugs worth ₹4.2 cr. recovered

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Rajanukunte police busted a drug racket and arrested three Nigerian nationals peddling MDMA crystals concealed in readymade garment packs and recovered drugs worth ₹4.2 crore.

Based on a tip-off, a team of police kept a close watch on the house for a few days and raided it to recover 2.8 kilos of MDMA crystals, 350 g of Hydro ganja, ₹2 lakh cash and seven mobile phones worth ₹4.5 crore from them, C.K. Baba, Superintendent of Police, Bengaluru rural district said.

Explaining the modus operandi of drug peddling, Mr. Baba said that the accused would conceal the drugs in cardboard strips that is used to pack readymade clothes and deliver it to their customers to hoodwink enforcement agencies.

The trio had come to India on medical visas in December 2024, and stayed in Delhi before moving to Bengaluru.

They over stayed after their visa expired to peddle drugs. The accused had made elaborate arrangements to ensure security and rented out a house using false identity and were staying in the house to pack and deliver the drugs. The accused would monitor unusual movements outside the house all the time.

It seems like they are only a part of a bigger network and we suspect others are involved, Mr. Baba said adding that the investigations are on to ascertain the involvement of others. The accused did not have any previous criminal history and it was the first time they were arrested, he added.

The police are further investigating to ascertain the source of the drugs and their peddling network as well.

Cybercrook dupes pharma company of ₹1.9 crore by posing as its chairman

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The North Division cybercrime police are on the lookout for a man who, posing as the chairman of a pharma company, allegedly duped its accountant to transfer ₹1.9 crore.

Based on the complaint by Saravanan V., the police have charged the unknown person under Information Technology Act, 2000 and also under Section 318(4) (cheating that involves fraudulently inducing someone to deliver property) under Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, 2023 for further investigation.

The complaint stated that the conman allegedly using the name and picture of the chairman of the company messaged the Chief Operating Officer (COO) asking details of the company's bank account a week ago. The imposter, claiming to be the chairman, reportedly used a different number claiming that it was his new number.

The company COO forwarded the message to the accountant asking him to provide the required details. The accused claiming to be the chairman said that he was in a business meeting with the government representative for a new project and couldn't talk.

He asked the balance of the company account for which the accountant reportedly sent a screenshot on WhatsApp.

The accused asked him to transfer ₹1.92 crore, saying it was required for a new project. When the complainant asked for the details of the bank account where he could transfer the money, the accused allegedly sent a bank account of cargo and courier company situated in Virar, East Mumbai. Trusting the messages to be genuine, the accountant followed the instructions and reportedly transferred the money and shared the details with the COO.

The fraud came to light when the chairman got to know of the fund transfer and told his employees that he had not sent any such message.

Modus operandi

The police are now trying to track down the accused through the money transactions. "This is one of the most common forms of cyber fraud," a senior police officer said, and advised people to cross check any information before resorting to any monetary transactions.

Broad gauge rail project facing delay owing to land acquisition issues

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

The much-anticipated Shivamogga-Shikaripur-Ranebennur new broad gauge (BG) line project, covering a distance of 96 km, continues to face delays primarily owing to land acquisition challenges. Sanctioned in the financial year 2019-20, the project was originally estimated at ₹956 crore.

The current anticipated cost is ₹994.47 crore, with funding shared equally between the Indian Railways and the Government of Karnataka.

Despite more than four years since approval, only 11.5% physical progress has been achieved, and no section of the line has been commissioned yet. Land acquisition remains the principal bottleneck, with just 560.49 acres (40.5%) of the required 1,382.7 acres handed over so far to the Railways from the State government.

A staggering 822.21 acres (59.5%) is yet to be acquired, with the largest backlog concentrated in the Shikaripur-Ranebennur section, where 815.30 acres of the required 878.14 acres are still pending.

"Land acquisition is the most pressing issue holding back the project," said an official from South Western Railway. "There are complications involving pending payments, documentation gaps, forest land clearance, and local disputes. These need urgent resolution if the project is to stay on track," the official added.

The project has been divided into two phases: Phase I covers the Shivamogga to Shikaripur stretch (46 km), while Phase II will extend from Shikaripur to Ranebennur. In a step forward, an EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) contract for the Koteganguru-Shikaripur stretch (39.38 km) was awarded on February 17, 2023, for ₹530.59 crore.

According to officials, to resolve the delays, regular high-level meetings have been held with key stakeholders, including the Chief Secretary of the Infrastructure Development Department , Deputy Commissioners, and the Minister of Infrastructure.

Officials say the project has significant potential to boost connectivity in the region. "The project is progressing, but land acquisition remains the critical challenge significantly impacting the pace of execution and commissioning," the official added.

About the new BG line project

- Total length: **96 km**
- Year sanctioned: **2019-20**
- Original cost: **₹956 crore**
- Current estimated cost: **₹994.47 crore**
- Land required: **1,382.7 acres**
- Land acquired: **560.49 acres (40.5%)**
- Land pending: **822.21 acres (59.5%)**

EDUCATION HUB

A Business Initiative

Vidyashilp University Felicitated Padma Shri Prof. K.L. Krishna, Prof. S. Mahendra Dev & Prof. Pami Dua in a Historic Gathering of Indian Economists

Recently Vidyashilp University hosted a rare and deeply meaningful felicitation, honouring three of India's most respected economists: Padma Shri Prof. K.L. Krishna, Prof. S. Mahendra Dev, and Prof. Pami Dua. The event, held at the IIMB Club, Taj Westend, Bengaluru, was not just a tribute—it was a conversation with legacy. Their contributions span over five decades and cut across disciplines, ministries, and milestones. Prof. P.G. Babu, Vice-Chancellor of Vidyashilp University, in his welcome address said to have all three of these luminaries under one roof is not just rare—it may be unrepeatable. As the day drew to a close, it was clear that this was no ordinary felicitation. It was a living archive—a moment where Indian economic history, contemporary policy, and institutional imagination stood shoulder to shoulder. For further information or media interviews contact Email: priyadarshini.sk@vidyashilp.com.

RV Institute of Technology and Management (RVITM) celebrates Historic VTU Academic Milestone with First-Ever Gold Medals

RVITM a premier engineering institution under the prestigious Rashtreeya Sikshana Samithi Trust (RSST), is proud to announce a momentous academic achievement in the VTU examinations – marking the institute's first Gold Medal distinction since inception. Ms. Navyashree Ganpisetty, final-year ECE student, has bagged the 1st Rank in VTU with a CGPA of 9.78 and has been conferred an unprecedented 11 Gold Medals. Ms. Raksha Umashankar, from CS & Engineering, has secured 5th Rank in VTU with a CGPA of 9.73. These outstanding performances reflect RVITM's commitment to academic rigor, student mentorship, and holistic development. Nagashetappa Biradar, Principal, RVITM, said This is a defining moment for RVITM. Dr. Manjunatha Prasad R, VP & HoD-ECE, RVITM further added that this milestone is not the end, but a new beginning in our journey of excellence.

BMS College Of Architecture (BMSCA) achieves All 10 University Ranks at VTU Convocation 2025

BMS College of Architecture, now known as BMS College of Architecture, Design and Planning (BMSCA D&P), proudly announces an extraordinary academic milestone. At the 25th Annual Convocation of VTU, Belagavi, students of B.Arch (2020-2025 Batch) secured a CLEAN SWEEP OF ALL 10 UNIVERSITY RANKS. Notably, Ms. Avanee G of BMSCA was awarded the First Rank and Gold Medal. This remarkable achievement reflects the dedication of students, the relentless efforts of faculty, excellent infrastructure, and the strong academic framework led by the Director, Prof. Dr. Mamatha P Raj. In addition to the B.Arch program, the institution offers a two-year M.Arch (Habitat Design) program and is recognized as a VTU Research Center. Beginning this academic year, two new four-year full-time programs–Bachelor of Planning (B.Plan) and Bachelor of Design (Interior Design)–have also been introduced.

Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technology, Off Campus of Nitte Deemed to be University, Yelahanka, Bengaluru awarded the most prestigious 'Justice K.S. Hegde Charitable Foundation Award 2025' to Sudha Murty

N. Vinaya Hegde, President, Nitte Education Trust and Chancellor, Nitte Deemed to be University, while conferring the most prestigious 'Justice K.S. Hegde Charitable Foundation Award 2025' on Sudha Murty Member of Rajya Sabha, Writer, Philanthropist and Founder-Chairperson of Infosys Foundation said he was happy that this award has been conferred on Sudha Murty, renowned author & philanthropist for her outstanding contributions to literature and social service. The Foundation is formed to honour Justice K.S. Hegde, who was former Judge of the Supreme Court of India and Former Speaker of the Lok Sabha. The award includes a citation, a plaque and cash reward. Guest of Honor Justice N. Santosh Hegde, Former Judge of the Supreme Court of India and Former Lokayukta of Karnataka said the it has brought immense pleasure to him for conferring the award on such a truly deserving person. In her address as awardee, Sudha Murty said, was happy to receive the award and has inspired her to go forward with dedication with abundant confidence. Dr. M. Shantharam Shetty, Pro-Chancellor, Nitte Deemed to be University welcomed the gathering. Dr. Sandeep Shastri, VP, Nitte Deemed to be University, Bengaluru campus briefed about the award. Dr. M.S. Moodithaya, VC, Nitte Deemed to be University read the citation and Vishal Hegde, Pro-Chancellor (Admin), Nitte Deemed to be University proposed vote of thanks. Dr. N.R. Shetty, Senior Advisor, Nitte Education Trust was present on the occasion.

Ahead of COP30, Bonn climate talks fumble the pressure test

The gathering set the groundwork for COP30 in Brazil. Beyond setting the agenda, the talks could be considered a litmus test to gauge how seriously countries are committed to implementing past pledges and how prepared they are to scale up ambition in the face of a shrinking climate window

Indu K. Murthy

Members of the G-77/China huddle to find a way forward on the Global Goal on Adaptation, on June 26. IISD/ENB - KIARA WORTH

As the world braces for another climate summit in November this year, the Subsidiary Bodies meeting in Bonn, Germany, brought together negotiators, scientists, policymakers, and civil society actors to tackle the complex, behind-the-scenes work that shapes the outcome of the Conference of the Parties (COP) summit.

Held annually in Bonn, this mid-year gathering sets the technical and political groundwork for the ensuing COPs, with the 30th Session of the COP (COP30) scheduled for later this year in Belém, Brazil. Beyond setting the agenda, Bonn could be considered a litmus test to gauge how seriously countries are committed to implementing past pledges and how prepared they are to scale up ambition in the face of a rapidly closing climate window.

Sadly, this year's Bonn conference was marked by delays, deep disagreements, and mounting frustration, especially over procedural priorities and climate finance. As global temperatures continue to break records, the urgency to act was palpable – as was the resistance to revisiting entrenched political differences.

Delayed start, deep divisions

The conference got off to a slow start as agenda adoption, a procedural step, was stalled by disputes over finance and trade measures. The Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDCs, including India) demanded the inclusion of Article 9.1 of the Paris Agreement, which obligates developed countries to provide climate finance and unilateral trade measures, such as carbon border taxes, on the agenda. India, along with the LMDCs, continues to see carbon border taxes as unfair, undermining principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities.

Both these propositions were opposed by developed nations, particularly the European Union, which argued that finance issues were being addressed under other agenda items. Eventually, a compromise was reached to address these issues: not as standalone agenda items but through informal consultations. Disappointed with developed countries' reluctance to discuss the legal obligations to provide financial support to developing countries, the LMDCs stated their intention to revisit this contentious issue at COP30.

This prolonged deadlock delayed the start of formal negotiations by nearly two days and underscored the persistent divide. While developing nations pushed for historical responsibilities to be acknowledged and operationalised, developed countries advocated forward-looking frameworks and voluntary support mechanisms.

An elusive agreement

One of the most intensely negotiated themes at Bonn was the Global Goal on Adaptation, which aims to reduce vulnerability to climate change, enhance adaptive capacity, and strengthen resilience. There were also discussions on integrating the National Adaptation Plan progress into the goal, which the G77+China rooted for.

One of the key drawbacks of the goal thus far has been the lack of metrics. At Bonn, about 490 indicators from a list of nearly 9,000 were shortlisted, with the aim of consolidating them further to about 100. These indicators will be used to track adaptation actions under health, water, agriculture, and infrastructure, among others. India emphasised that adaptation must not be assessed through a uniform lens and backed indicators that are flexible, context-sensitive, and don't overburden national reporting.

However, differences and tensions arose over whether and how to include indicators on the means of implementation, including finance, capacity, and technology transfer. Many developing countries and regional blocs, such as the African Group and Independent Alliance of Latin America and the Caribbean (AILAC), stressed that without finance-related indicators, adaptation efforts will remain an unfunded mandate.

However, countries like Japan and Australia pushed back against including finance-related indicators. Additionally, the African Group and AILAC were opposed to including indicators to track domestic finance allocation and development assistance, while Australia supported their inclusion, emphasising the importance of tracking national adaptation processes.

The process to refine indicators was thus contentious. Countries including Australia warned against micromanaging expert groups tasked with technical work, while others demanded clear guidance and tight timelines. Towards the end of the conference, parties agreed on a globally applicable headline indicator set, which would be complemented by regionally or nationally tailored context-specific sub-indicators. Guidance on indicators to reflect the means of implementation wasn't agreed on, however.

'Safe space' debate

The Mitigation Work Programme (MWP) – created to scale up action to meet the 1.5° C target – also came under scrutiny. While many parties acknowledged the usefulness of dialogues under the MWP, several questioned its ability to deliver actual emissions reductions.

The debate between parties was on how a constructive and inclusive environment, a.k.a. safe space, could be provided for the MWP discussions: some advocated a push to ramp up ambitions, while others wanted to limit their scope. Developing countries emphasised that many of them have already set ambitious Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) targets but lack the financial and technical support to implement them.

The LMDCs, including India, and the African and Arab Groups, warned against the MWP being used to impose new commitments and urged that it remain a facilitative, non-punitive process. The Philippines called for the MWP to facilitate, promote, and enhance international cooperation.

Further, a proposal was made to develop a digital platform to share mitigation tools and experiences. While Brazil, supported by Egypt, argued that this could help connect fragmented initiatives, the Alliance of Small Island States and the EU cautioned about the duplication of existing platforms, which could take attention away from scaling up ambitions.

L&D, just transition, gender

The review of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage (L&D) made some headway, with proposals emerging on integrating L&D into NDCs and streamlining technical assistance. However, funding gaps and questions about how the Santiago Network – a UN initiative linking vulnerable developing nations with technical support to tackle climate impacts, focusing on loss and damage reduction – would operate continued to cloud consensus.

This year's Bonn conference was marked by delays, deep disagreements, and mounting frustration, especially over procedural priorities and climate finance. As global temperatures continue to break records, the urgency to act was palpable, as was the resistance to revisiting entrenched political differences

In this session, interventions by observers emphasised the need to consider non-economic L&D, scale up finance, and align L&D efforts with human rights obligations. India and other developing countries called for streamlining access to technical support and adequate and scaled-up funding for responding to climate-induced losses.

In discussions under the Just Transition Work Programme, parties emphasised that just transition must be anchored in equity, development rights, and national contexts. Social dialogue, labour rights, and meaningful stakeholder engagement, especially that of Indigenous Peoples, were highlighted as foundational to just transition. parties also flagged the economic impacts of unilateral measures, such as carbon border taxes (tariffs imposed on imported goods based on their carbon footprint) and trade barriers, and the role of critical minerals in energy transition. parties agreed to address these issues through linked agenda items, and this would remain a bone of contention at COP30.

A new dispute emerged at Bonn in connection with the development of a new Gender Action Plan. There were differences of opinion on terminology (gender diversity and intersectionality). Key areas of focus proposed for the Plan included unpaid care work, sexual and reproductive health, and addressing gender-based violence, signalling the need for a framework that responds to evolving realities. In this context, the roles of gender-disaggregated data, traditional knowledge systems, and gender-responsive budgeting were also discussed.

UNFCCC Executive Secretary Simon Stiell speaks with Adonia Ayebare, SBSTA Chair, and Julia Gardiner, SBI Chair, at the Bonn climate talks. IISD/ENB - KIARA WORTH

Climate finance gridlock

Climate finance loomed large across almost every negotiation track. The issues of how much funding is available, where it is going, where it will go, and how predictable it is remained a recurring theme across discussions on adaptation, mitigation, and L&D.

The presidency-led consultation on the 'Baku to Belem' roadmap aims to operationalise a target to mobilise $1.3 trillion annually in climate finance. But deep disagreements emerged over the structure of finance – grants vs. loans, public v. private, and mitigation v. adaptation – and who should be held responsible for raising the money.

Developing countries pushed for transparent and clear burden-sharing frameworks among developed countries, with the G77 and China calling for tackling systemic barriers to finance. Small Island Developing States, represented by AOSIS, demanded earmarked and fast-disbursing funds tailored to their unique vulnerabilities. The Least Developed Countries sought a tripling of adaptation finance by 2030 compared to 2022 levels and a greater reliance on grants. Several groups, including AILAC, the Environmental Integrity Group, and the Arab Group, also stressed the importance of tracking progress; scaling non-debt instruments; and innovating revenue streams, such as taxes on financial transactions. The EU noted the need for the roadmap to be a transparent platform engaging external stakeholders and building on existing initiatives.

Taken together, these inputs reflect a clear call for an inclusive and accountable roadmap that's responsive to diverse regional needs.

Meanwhile, concerns emerged over the credibility of *ex-ante* finance reporting by developed countries on their planned financial contributions, per Article 9.5 of the Paris Agreement. Several developing countries highlighted discrepancies between planned or promised contributions and actual disbursements and called for reforms to improve transparency and accountability.

On the service arrangements of the Adaptation Fund: parties led by AOSIS requested that the World Bank, currently an Interim Trustee of the Fund, be named the Permanent Trustee of the Adaptation Fund.

With COP30 in Belém just months away, the Bonn Climate Conference was both a teaser and a pressure test. On the positive side, parties made incremental progress on technical workstreams like adaptation indicators, transparency frameworks, and Article 6 (on cooperative mechanisms). But the underlying political tensions around equity and finance remain unresolved. Bonn 2025 reaffirmed that while the science is unequivocal, politics will determine the pace of action.

(Indu K. Murthy leads the Climate, Environment, and Sustainability sector at the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy, a research-based think tank. indukmurthy@cstep.in)

Sanitation workers cleaning a road are enveloped by smog in Gurugram. PTI

Air pollution tied to preterm births, low birth weight in India: study

Geetha Srimathi

Air pollution, a hazard endured everyday by millions across India in varying degrees, has long been associated with a range of respiratory diseases, heart conditions, and a growing list of health issues. Now, a new study reveals the damaging effects of air pollution extend far beyond the lungs and heart, affecting people before they are even born.

Published in *PLoS Global Public Health*, the study was carried out by researchers from institutions in India, Thailand, Ireland, and the UK, with data from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) along with satellite data. The team assessed the influence of ambient air quality on birth outcomes, specifically preterm births (PTB) and low birth weight (LBW). The dataset included children aged 0 to 5 years; 52% were female and 48% male.

The results suggest that exposure to fine particulate matter (PM2.5) during pregnancy significantly increases the likelihood of these adverse outcomes. PM2.5 consists of airborne particles less than 2.5 micrometres in diameter.

According to the study, mothers exposed to increased levels of PM2.5 had a 70% higher chance of delivering prematurely compared to those who weren't exposed. The odds of giving birth to a baby with low birth weight rose by 40% for mothers who faced higher air pollution levels.

Northern states at higher risk

A particularly significant finding in the study is the regional disparity: specifically, Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar bear the brunt of the consequences of air pollution. These regions are known for being heavily industrialised with high vehicular emissions and the widespread use of solid fuels for cooking.

Higher PM2.5 during pregnancy increased the likelihood of both LBW and PTB by 1.37x and 1.67x, respectively, with even a slight rise in temperature linked to an increase in LBW cases

This conclusion aligns with previous reports. Another recent study in *The Lancet* reported that the average PM2.5 concentration in Delhi was 13.8-times higher than that in Kerala.

PTB was most prevalent in Himachal Pradesh (39%) and Delhi (17%), while LBW was most common in Punjab (22%) and Delhi (19%). Female children were more likely to be born with LBW (20%) compared to males (17%) – although both conditions were found to be more frequent among children of illiterate and poorer mothers.

Households that used solid fuel to cook also reported higher rates of both LBW and PTB.

Higher levels of PM2.5 during pregnancy significantly increased the likelihood of both LBW and PTB by 1.37x and 1.67x, respectively, with even a slight rise in temperature linked to an increase in LBW cases, though not PTB.

Higher temperatures have previously been linked to maternal dehydration, heat stress, and increased cardiovascular strain, all of which impair placental function and disrupt foetal growth. Conversely, excessive rainfall, especially during the monsoon, raises the risk of waterborne infections, which can further hinder foetal growth, the study suggests.

Flooding and displacement associated with heavy rains can also disrupt healthcare access, leading to delayed medical interventions and increasing the likelihood of pregnancy complications.

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Divide BBMP into five corporations, says panel

The committee made a presentation to Deputy Chief Minister and Home Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Brand Bengaluru Committee, that presented the first draft of the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill, 2024, that provided for multiple corporations in the city's civic limits, has proposed that the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) be divided into five corporations.

The committee made a presentation of the same with the proposed boundaries of the five corporations to Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Home Minister G. Parameshwara on Monday.

The maximum variance in the revenue generation capacity of these proposed five corporations is said to have been kept at ₹100 crore. K. MURALI KUMAR

Revenue difference

The Brand Bengaluru Committee has proposed five corporations, Central, North, East, West, and South, sources said. The proposed corporations have been drawn with maintaining balance in revenue generation and to avoid Assembly constituencies being cut in multiple corporations, as two key criteria.

The maximum variance in the revenue generation capacity of these proposed five corporations is said to have been kept at ₹100 crore and only three to five Assembly constituencies would be cut into multiple corporations, sources said. Mahadevapura and K.R. Puram Assembly constituencies, that house the city's IT corridor and hence generate the highest revenue, will be split up into multiple corporations, sources said.

However, this has led to wide variance in the area and population of these proposed corporations. While population density is high in the west, its revenue generation capacity is low, and its converse is true in the present East and Mahadevapura zones. Keeping balancing revenue generation capacity as a key criteria, has led to proposed corporations where the largest corporation is more than double the size of the smallest, and population also varies in the ratio of 1:3 between the smallest and largest corporations, sources said.

Opposition

Following the meeting, Mr. Shivakumar told mediapersons that he had told the committee chairman that the Opposition leaders need to be taken into confidence on the report, following which he would discuss it in the Cabinet. "The corporations would be formed within the existing boundaries of the BBMP and it would be expanded at a later date. We need to conduct elections as early as possible," he said.

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Janata Dal (Secular) have consistently opposed the idea of splitting up BBMP into multiple corporations.

It it was a JD(S)-BJP government which expanded the erstwhile civic body in 2007 to include 110 villages, multiple city and town municipal corporations from 225 sq km to 709 sq km to form BBMP. During the previous BJP regime, the State government brought in BBMP Act, 2020, a dedicated law to govern Bengaluru, but under a single corporation set up.

Next month

The State government is keen to put out the proposed boundaries of multiple corporations over the next month, seeking objections from the public. The government has committed itself in the court to hold elections by the end of the year, sources said. Come September this year, it will be five years without an elected council in the city.

BMIC project: With awards not passed, High Court quashes land acquisition

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a major victory for many landowners, the High Court of Karnataka has set aside acquisition of several acres for the controversial Bangalore Mysore Infrastructure Corridor (BMIC) project as the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) had failed to pass awards for these lands even some 23 years after issuing final notifications.

Justice R. Devdas passed the order on July 4 while allowing a batch of petitions, filed between 2014 and 2024, by P. Manjunatha Reddy and other landowners.

'Could not be sustained'

The petitioner-landowners contended that the acquisition process could not be sustained as the KIADB's special land acquisition officer (SLAO) had failed to pass awards till date even though the preliminary notifications of acquisition under Section 28(1) of the KIAD Act, 1966 were issued between 1998 and 2009, and the final notifications, under Section 28(4) of the Act, were issued between 2003 and 2009.

Justice Devdas relied on a verdict passed in 2023 by a Division Bench of the High Court in KIADB vs M. Shakunthalamma's case in which it had set aside an acquired land, which too was notified for the BMIC project, on the ground that no award was passed even after a lapse of 11 years since issuance of the final notification.

Shakunthalamma case

The court also noted that the apex court had confirmed the Division Bench's judgment in the Shakunthalamma case.

In the present case, the court noted that over 23 years had lapsed since the notifications for acquisition were issued between 1998 and 2009, and the awards had not been passed by the SLAO till today.

'Having regard to the plight of the landowners who are deprived of the use and occupation of lands and they losing their livelihood, this court has no other option, than to follow the judgment of the Division Bench in M. Shakunthalamma's case," the court observed.

'Pass awards afresh based on 2019 market value of lands'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a boon for some persons who lost their lands to the BMIC project, the High Court of Karnataka directed the KIADB to pass awards afresh for some of the lands, notified way back in 2003, for which the KIADB passed awards between 2019 and 2024 based on the land values between 2003 and 2011.

Justice Devdas passed the order while disposing of a batch of petitions filed by A. Abdul Rehman Khan and others, whose lands were acquired for the project.

Bernard's case

The court passed the order while citing Supreme Court's January 2025 verdict in the case of Bernard Francis Joseph Vaz and others vs Government of Karnataka, in which the apex court directed the KIADB to pass an award fresh by taking the market value of the land as existed in 2019.

In Bernard's case, the land was acquired in 2003 and utilised for the project sans passing award. However, the KIADB passed the award in 2019 relying on the 2011 market value of that land. Rejecting the pleas against extending the benefit of Bernard's case verdict to the petitioners, the High Court said that "there cannot be discrimination in the matter of determination and award of compensation".

Pointing out that petitioner-landowners had contended that their lands were not part of the BMIC project and no part of their lands had been utilised by the KIADB or the project proponent – Nandi Infrastructure Corridor Enterprises – for the formation of interchanges, toll plazas, peripheral road or link road, which were part of the project, the court noted that this claim of the petitioners were not controverted by the KIADB and others.

Even though the courts had earlier upheld the legality of the preliminary and final notifications for acquiring these lands, the court said that not passing award was a fresh cause of action to challenge the validity of land acquisition proceedings.

Private firm employee duped by 'prospective bride' of ₹73.7 lakh

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The South Division Cyber Crime Police have registered a case against an unknown person, who posing as a prospective bride, allegedly lured a 41-year-old man into investing money in a scheme that promised to pay huge returns, and cheated him of ₹73.7 lakh.

Based on the complaint filed by Rama Rao (name changed), a resident of Banashankari, the police charged the accused under Information Technology Act, 2000 and also under Section 318(4) (offence of cheating and dishonestly inducing the delivery of property) and 319(2) (Cheating by Personation) of Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, 2023, for further investigation.

The complainant, on March 16, 2025, reportedly befriended the accused, who claimed to be Shreya Sharma, on a matrimonial website and exchanged contact numbers. The accused proposed to marry him and lured him into online trading claiming she was investing in it too and earning a huge margin of profit.

Swayed by this, the complainant agreed to invest, and since March to June this year invested ₹73.7 lakh of his savings on a website she introduced him to. The cheating came to light when the complainant realised that Shreya was asking him to invest more and more but there was neither a way of accessing his trading account nor an option to withdraw the profits. The complainant discussed this with his friends and realised that he had been cheated and raised a complaint on cybercrime helpline 1930 before approaching the police.

According to the police this is not the first case of the same *modus operandi*. Fraudsters have taken to creating fake profiles on matrimonial platforms, gained people's trust by posing as prospective brides and grooms, and later introduced their targets to fraudulent high-return investment schemes and cheat them. Two such cases have been reported in East Division Cyber Crime Police Station as a bank employee and a owner of a second hand bikes showroom reportedly lost lakhs of rupees, to similar schemes.

BBMP to conduct rabies awareness campaign

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) will conduct mass awareness campaigns to eradicate rabies through specially designated, LED-equipped vehicles in its limits.

The vehicles will travel to all wards to educate citizens about rabies prevention. The BBMP will also reach out to BBMP-run government, and private schools and colleges to educate students about rabies prevention and control, and send the campaign vehicles there.

Taking part in the observation of World Zoonoses Day (marked on July 6) on Monday, Special Commissioner (Health), BBMP Suralkar Vikas Kishor stressed on the importance of proactive measures to prevent the spread of rabies. "Several diseases are transmitted from animals to humans. People are often in close contact with dogs, and dog bites can lead to serious health issues. Therefore, it is essential to vaccinate animals regularly against rabies and to spread awareness among the public," he said.

"No one should isolate or avoid animals out of fear. Instead, we must learn to co-exist and understand their behaviour. Further IEC (Information, Education & Communication) activities related to zoonotic diseases will also be undertaken," he added.

The official said that BBMP with various organisations is making efforts to make Bengaluru rabies-free by 2030.

Road rage: Journalist harassed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 38-year-old journalist returning home from work was allegedly harassed by a car driver in an instance of road rage on the busy New Thippasandra Road in J. B. Nagar police station limits in Bengaluru on July 2.

According to the complaint, the journalist was riding home on her scooter around 9.45 p.m. when a car brushed her vehicle. When she objected, the driver allegedly blocked her way, obstructing traffic. He allegedly snatched the scooter key, abused and threatened her, and created a ruckus, according to the complainant.

The journalist called the police control room for help. However, by the time help arrived, the accused had fled after returning the bike key. By then, the journalist had clicked pictures of the car.

Based on her complaint, the J.B. Nagar police initially registered a Non Cognizable Report. The police tracked down the accused with the help of the car's registration number, but the man reportedly refused to come to the police station. As a result, the police registered an FIR booking the accused under Sections 126(2) (wrongful restrain) and 351(2) (criminal intimidation) of the BNS, 2023.

On Monday, police summoned the accused Saravanan Krishnan, 45, an engineer working at a private firm, for questioning. A senior police official said that they recorded his statement. However, the victim claimed that the police were not helpful and the accused again stopped her car near the police station, and alleged that she and her family faced threats from the accused.

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TUESDAY, JUL. 08	
RISE 05:59	SET 18:50
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WEDNESDAY, JUL. 09	
RISE 06:00	SET 18:50
RISE 17:46	SET 04:18
THURSDAY, JUL. 10	
RISE 06:00	SET 18:50
RISE 18:39	SET 05:13

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	24
Mysuru	29	20
Bengaluru	29	21

Bengaluru Today
27°C The weather will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Chances of light rain and thundershower at few places.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortabe. Night also will be pleasant. Dry weather to prevail.

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THE HINDU
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Woman allegedly drowns her newborn in vessel

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Nelamangala police have arrested a 25-year-old woman who allegedly killed her newborn by drowning it in a vessel used to boil water in the early hours of Sunday.

The accused Radha was married to Pawan, an autorickshaw driver, two years ago and delivered a baby boy one and half months ago. She was staying at her parent's house after her delivery.

Post-partum depression

Police suspect that the accused was suffering from post-partum depression, and was upset that Pawan had stopped visiting her. She was also reportedly troubled for the last few days as the child was crying inconsolably, and she was unable to feed him, the police said. She reportedly picked up the baby, allegedly drowned it in a large water vessel (*hande*) and returned to sleep. The incident came to light on Monday morning when her parents noticed the baby was missing and questioned her. Radha reportedly claimed that some unknown person came in the middle of the night and took away the baby, following which the parents alerted the police.

The parents later searched the house to find the baby in the water vessel. The police rushed to the vessel and questioned Radha. A detailed questioning led her to confess to the crime, the police said.

Mother arrested

Based on her confession, the police arrested Radha charging her under Section 103 (murder) for further investigation.

PU student abducted and robbed by two men

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

They snatched his mobile phone worth ₹15,000 and took away ₹100 from the victim and sped away

A 17-year-old student who was returning home from tuition was abducted by two men on a scooter at knife-point and robbed of his phone at Malleswaram on Saturday. A sum of ₹100 was also taken away from him.

The victim, Kushal B. Gowda, a resident of Yelahanka New Town is pursuing his II PU, and was attending coaching classes on weekends.

While he was waiting for a bus at around 6 p.m., two men on a scooter approached him and the pillion rider pulled out a knife threatening him to stab if he did not accompany them. Scared Kushal followed their instructions and the accused rode triples towards Yeshwanthpur while he was sitting in the middle. The pillion rider threatened him to hand over the valuables and snatched his mobile phone worth ₹15,000 and stopped close to a bus stop and demanded cash. Kushal handed over ₹100 which he had. The accused dropped Kushal and sped away. Kushal managed to contact his family and based on their advice approached the police to file a complaint.

Complaint registered

The police based on his complaint, registered a case of robbery and are now verifying the CCTV footage from in and around to identify the accused.

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The dip in Tesla stocks amid concerns over the company's future

7 In per cent. Tesla's shares took a dip in pre-market trading on Monday following Elon Musk's launch of his new U.S. political party, as it raised concerns over his future involvement in the electric vehicle maker business. The new party, called the "America Party," was unveiled on Saturday. REUTERS

Number of asylum seekers rescued near Crete, Greece

230 Greece's coastguard on Monday said it had rescued around 230 asylum seekers near the island of Crete, after hundreds more landed over the weekend. An EU border agency spotted the migrants inside two inflatable boats off Gavdos, an island southwest of Crete. AFP

The fine imposed on Apple by the European Union

500 million euros. The European Commission slapped Apple with a fine for preventing developers from steering customers outside its App Store to access cheaper deals in breach of the bloc's competition rules. Apple filed an appeal against the fine imposed by EU. AFP

The farmer suicides in Marathwada from January to June

520 Eight districts of Maharashtra's Marathwada region experienced a 20% increase in reported farmer suicides from last year, according to revenue department reports. Beed district, where 126 farmers committed suicide during the period, topped the list. PTI

Children who died in Maharashtra between April and February

12,438 More than 12,000 children died in Maharashtra between April last year and February 2025, state Public Health and Family Welfare Minister Prakash Abitkar said on Monday. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Remaking the nuclear order in West Asia

While both the U.S. and Israel agree that Iran cannot be allowed to have a bomb, Mr. Netanyahu goes one step forward to deny Iran any nuclear capabilities. However, for Iran, nuclear deterrence assumes a greater importance now, even if there is a change of regime

WORLD INSIGHT

Rakesh Sood

There is hardly any political leader who understands the laws of political survival better than Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Realising that he is in a morass with respect to Gaza, as Hamas has not yet been dismantled even though its leaders have been killed, and all hostages have not been brought home resulting in growing domestic pressure, Mr. Netanyahu employed an old tactic – distract attention from an ongoing crisis by creating another one.

Israel's surprise strikes on Iran, launched on June 13, created a new and larger crisis. The military action has been successful, with the U.S. finally coming on board. For the moment, PM Netanyahu is firmly back in the driver's seat. But this has also opened a Pandora's box of what next.

Israel's calculations

Mr. Netanyahu wants to keep Israel as the only nuclear power in the region. He is convinced that the Libyan model, where the nuclear programme was completely dismantled, is the only acceptable option, preferably with a change of regime. In 2015, he opposed the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) primarily because it conceded a limited uranium enrichment right to Iran.

Since mid-April, five rounds of talks took place between U.S. Special Envoy Steve Witkoff and Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Aragchi, with a sixth round due on June 15 in Muscat. After stumbling over the issue of Iran insisting on its right to enrichment as a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), some progress was registered on the idea of a regional nuclear fuel consortium to provide fuel for the reactors in the region. Its location remained under discussion, making Mr. Netanyahu nervous.

On June 11, Mr. Netanyahu barely survived a motion in the Knesset tabled by the opposition seeking to dissolve parliament, leading to early elections that are currently due in October 2026. PM Netanyahu has been facing domestic opposition since early 2023 due to his attempts at pushing though controversial judicial reforms that were widely seen as curbing judicial independence. The Hamas attack on October 7 had provided him a reprieve that has lasted nearly two years. Given Mr. Netanyahu's multiple domestic legal challenges, a continuing war is his "get-out-of-jail" card.

During the 20-month war, the leadership of Hamas and Hezbollah has been decapitated, and a change of regime in Damascus last December has doused Iran's "ring of fire." On two occasions in 2024, Israel directly engaged with Iran and, in the process, knocked out its air defences around Tehran and other critical installations.

Having buried the two-state-solution, and with Iran at its weakest, Mr. Netanyahu must have felt that this was the ideal time to neutralise Iranian nuclear and missile threats. The Iranians are known for their frustratingly convoluted negotiating style and given U.S. President Donald Trump's impatience, Mr. Netanyahu was able to convince him that a little military pressure would make them more accommodating.

Iran's miscalculations

As recently as March 26, U.S. Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard in her annual intelligence threat assessment to Congress stated, "the Intelligence Community continues to assess that Iran is not building a nuclear weapon and Supreme Leader Khamenei has not authorised the nuclear weapons programme that he suspended in 2003". This gave Iran's leadership a misplaced confidence that as long as the negotiations continued on the idea of a regional enrichment facility, the U.S. would block any military strike by Israel.

However, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) report in May criticising "Iran's general lack of cooperation" and the near doubling of its stockpile of 60% enriched uranium to over 400 kgs since February proved to be more damaging that Iran anticipated. This heightened Iranian concerns about the threat of a sanctions-snapback by the UN Security Council, which was waived in 2015 following the adoption of the JCPOA.

Iran knew that given its ageing air force, it was dependent on its stocks of drones and missiles. Despite the debacles with Hamas and Hezbollah leaderships, Iran underestimated the extent of Mossad's penetration of its systems, evidenced by the targeted assassinations of its key military leaders as well as nuclear and missile scientists.

The entry of the U.S.

When the U.S. began to withdraw non-essential staff from its embassies in the region in early June, it was anticipating Israel's likely military action. In the past, U.S. reluctance to get involved had prevented Israel from military strikes but this time, Mr Netanyahu took a gamble and it paid off. Impressed with the success of Israel's military actions, Mr. Trump ordered supportive strikes on June 22, with B-2 bombers dropping GBU-57 'bunker-busters' on Fordow and Natanz, and Tomahawk cruise missiles on Isfahan. Following the token retaliation by Iran the following day, Mr. Trump declared an end to the "12-day-war".

Israel thus claimed victory, Mr. Trump declared the underground sites "obliterated," the Gulf states heaved a sigh of relief, and for Iran's Supreme Leader, regime survival was a victory. Iran suffered over 600 casualties, and all its air defences and half its stock of missile launchers, were destroyed. It failed to take down a single Israeli aircraft though it did bring down some drones. Of the 500 missiles that Iran fired, over 30 were able to get through causing 30 casualties.

While Mr. Netanyahu's suggestion that sustained military pressure may bring about a regime change in Tehran has some support from Iran-hawks in Washington, it is anathema to Mr. Trump's MAGA support base, who are wary of entanglements abroad. The U.S. interventions in Afghanistan and Iraq in 2001 and 2003 respectively, were messy and costly, leaving behind a legacy of instability. Iran is three times larger, and Iranians are a people with a deep sense of nationalism based on their civilisational history. The current theocratic regime may be weak and its replacement may be less religious, but not less nationalist, and it would therefore push ahead with the nuclear deterrent.

Mr. Netanyahu may not be averse to a forced regime change but the U.S. and the Gulf Arabs would not want to open this Pandora's box.

Iran's nuclear capability

Iran has had an ambitious civilian nuclear programme going back to the 1950s. It joined the NPT in 1970. Initially, the Islamic regime was uninterested in the nuclear programme, seeing it as a part of Western influence. This changed after the Iran-Iraq war and in the 1990s, it began developing a clandestine enrichment capability. The 2002 disclosures by a group of Iranian exiles, followed by the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003, led the Supreme Leader to shift direction and aim for threshold status rather than develop a full-fledged nuclear weapon. The centrifuges and higher levels of enrichment also provided for bargaining space as Iran could negotiate for sanctions relief with the U.S.

Today, the situation has changed. Iran's proxies (except for the Houthis) have been decimated and its missile and drone capabilities found wanting. The threshold state is no longer a safe place. Therefore, a nuclear deterrent assumes greater importance, even if there is a change of regime.

Questions remain about the extent of damage to the underground centrifuge sites as well as the fate of the 400 kg of the 60% enriched uranium stockpile. While the scale of the attacks makes resumption of Iran-U.S. talks tricky, Iran has raised the stakes by terminating the IAEA inspector's access to its nuclear sites. Mr. Trump would like to conclude a deal with Iran to build on his success with the ceasefire. He would do well to remember the U.S. scholar Thomas Schelling's advice that successful coercion requires both a credible threat as well as credible reassurance, if Iran is to be 'persuaded' during any future talks.

There has always been a difference between the U.S. and Israeli positions. While both agree that Iran cannot be allowed to have a bomb, Mr. Netanyahu goes one step forward to deny Iran any nuclear capabilities. However, since Mr. Trump has obliged him with the June 22 strikes, he may find it difficult to deny Mr. Trump his Iran deal provided the Iranians play the game.

Rakesh Sood is a former diplomat and is Distinguished Fellow at the Council For Strategic and Defence Research.

Cost of war: Workers repair the main entrance of Evin Prison after it was hit by an Israeli airstrike on June 23, on July 1, in Tehran, Iran. GETTY IMAGES

THE GIST

Mr. Netanyahu wants to keep Israel as the only nuclear power in the region. He is convinced that the Libyan model, where the nuclear programme was completely dismantled, is the only acceptable option, preferably with a change of regime.

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Student abducted, assaulted by gang of youths in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The city police have arrested a group of eight youths who allegedly assaulted and tortured a student after disrobing him in an isolated place, and made a video of the attack referring to the Renukaswamy murder case, in which Kannada film actor Darshan was arrested. The incident took place on June 30.

The victim Kushal K.M., 19, was reportedly in a relationship with his classmate, a minor girl, who broke up with him and got into another relationship.

Enraged by this, Kushal allegedly started fighting with her over messages, objecting to her behaviour.

ILLUSTRATION BY SEBASTIAN FRANCIS

He allegedly also sent indecent and lewd messages, forcing the girl to complain to her friend.

On June 30, the girl reportedly called Kushal to meet her for sorting out all issues. However, in his complaint, Kushal said that when he went to meet the girl, he was confronted by a group of youths, instead of the girl.

The group allegedly asked him to delete the girl's photos and videos from his mobile and started beating him. They forcibly took him in a car near a college and assaulted him. When he said that he had kept the phone at his home, they reportedly took him home, made him delete all the photos and videos of the girl, handed over the phone to his mother and took him from his home again. In the complaint, Kushal alleged that he was beaten, humiliated, and tortured in the car, and they later took him to a grove near Aaluru Lake, where they beat him with a cane, forced him to disrobe and tortured him.

The accused made a video of the attack referring to the Renukaswamy murder case, in which Kannada film actor Darshan was arrested

The accused recorded the video of the assault, and the girl who was present at the spot was also seen in the video.

In the video that has now gone viral, one of the accused says this case is akin to the Renukaswamy murder case and introduces Kushal as Renukaswamy.

It may be recalled that in June, 2024, Kannada film actor Darshan and his partner, Pavithra Gowda, were arrested, along with their associates, for allegedly abducting Renukaswamy for sending indecent messages to Pavithra Gowda on Instagram. Renukaswamy was a fan of the actor.

He was employed in a medical store in Chitradurga. He was allegedly tortured to death in a shed at Pattandur Agrahara in Bengaluru on June 8, 2024.

In this case, the victim, Kushal, was also tortured for many hours and later dropped back home, after warning him with dire consequences if he ever spoke to the girl again.

Kushal narrated the ordeal to his parents before filing a complaint with the police. Based on his complaint, the police tracked down the accused and charged them under Sections 137(2) (kidnapping from lawful guardianship), 118(1) (voluntarily causing hurt or grievous hurt by dangerous weapons or means), 352(intentional insult with the intent to provoke a breach of peace) and 351(2) (criminal intimidation) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and arrested eight persons, identified as Shivashankar A., 20, Yeshwanth Patel, 20, Hemanth, 18, Salman Khan, 23, Rahul M., 20, Tejas S., 20, Rakesh R., 21, and N. Shashank Gowda, 19.

Seven among them are students and one works in a private firm. The police also summoned the girl and recorded her statement who is also accused in the case.

Document verification for NRI ward quota candidates

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The document verification process for candidates seeking admission to Medical, Dental, and AYUSH courses under the NRI ward claim will be conducted from July 8 to July 10 by the Karnataka Examinations Authority.

The candidates can visit the KEA office in Malleswaram for in-person verification.

"Candidates are required to appear based on their NEET rank as follows: On July 8 candidates with ranks up to 4,00,000, July 9 ranks up to 8,00,000 and on July 10 ranks up to 12,00,000," said H. Prasanna, executive director, KEA on Monday.

The candidates must carry the necessary documents.

SBI donates raincoats to Bengaluru Traffic Police

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As part of its platinum jubilee celebrations, the State Bank of India recently extended support to the Bengaluru traffic police by donating 200 raincoats to the Cubbon Park Traffic Police Station.

The initiative, under the bank's Corporate Social Responsibility programme, aims to enhance the efficiency and comfort of police personnel managing traffic during the monsoon season.

Joohi Smita Sinha, chief general manager of SBI, Bengaluru Circle, handed over the raincoats to the police in the presence of inspector Ravi B.

Harikatha by Vishaka Hari on August 1

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru-based group GoPals, comprising working professionals promoting sustainable living and traditional Indian agricultural practices, will be hosting a Harikatha performance by Vishaka Hari.

The event, titled 'MUSIC2HEAL', will take place at Chowdaiah Memorial Hall, Vyalikaval, in Bengaluru on August 1 at 5.30 p.m.

Vishaka Hari, known for blending classical music with storytelling, will present '7Gs for a Successful Life', which focuses on values rooted in Indian tradition. Tickets are available on BookMyShow: Event Link.

Former MP questioned in road-rage case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Dobbspet police on Monday questioned former MP Anantkumar Hegde in a road-rage case where he was booked as an accused along with his gunman and driver last week.

Mr. Hegde had been arrested and later released on bail along with two others, including car driver Mahesh and gunman Sridhar on the day of the incident. He appeared before the police for questioning and recorded his statement on Monday.

The Dobbspet police registered an FIR against the trio following a complaint by Saif Khan, a businessman, who accused them of assaulting him and manhandling his family members over a road-rage incident. The incident occurred when Mr. Khan who was driving his car overtook Mr. Hegde's XUV multiple times.

Irritated by this Mr. Hegde's XUV allegedly intercepted Mr. Khan's vehicle on the outskirts of Bengaluru. The driver of Mr. Hegde's car and his gunman dragged him out and allegedly assaulted him. The family members of Mr. Khan, including women were also manhandled when they tried to intervene, he alleged. In the attack Mr. Khan lost his tooth and was left with a bloodied mouth. He later called the police and filed a complaint accusing Mr. Hegde of instigating the attack after he identified him as a "Muslim".

Socionova on July 19

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Christ Junior College's Department of Social Sciences will host Socionova, a district-level inter-collegiate fest on July 19 at CHRIST (Deemed-to-be-University), Hosur Road.

Open to students of classes 11 and 12 from all streams and boards, Socionova offers a vibrant platform for young minds.

The fest will feature 12 engaging events, ranging from history-themed debates to psychology-inspired murder mysteries, aimed at fostering critical thinking, creativity, and analytical skills.

For registration, visit https://forms.gle/dbMZZecCyhPgTdXE8

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. Y/E.29/2025-26/18
Dated : 26-06-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Krishnarajanagar : Provision of additional Running line on Mysuru - Hassan Line.	Rs. 7,51,649/-

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 11:00 Hrs on 17-07-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/ General/Mysuru
PUB/246/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

WE, ASHOK H. Kammar and Mamatha V Karigoudar, R/a No.47, 10th A Crs, Kanakanagar, Bengaluru-560032 have changed our minor Son's name from Atharva Abhinav to Chiranjit vide affidavit dt: 02.06.2025 sworn before Notary S.N.Madhu, B'lore.

I, Rajendra B K S/o Byrappa R/o Sy No 107/1, No 662, 1 Cross, 3 Main Road, 2 Block, 1 Stage, Peenya B.b.m.p. Office, Peenya, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560058, Have Changed the Name of My Minor Son Namely Shrijay R (Aged 3 Years 9 Months). And He Shall Hereafter Be Known as Shrijay Rajendra for All Future Purposes.

I, Hitherto Known As Sai Shreyas K Alias K Sai Shreyas S/O Krishna Kumar Ramanathan Residing At No-2459/I- 16th D Main Hal 2nd Stage, Bengaluru, Pin-560008, Karnataka, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Sai Shreyas Krishna Kumar For All Future Purposes

I, MUBESHSHERA Khatri, W/o Mohammed Talha residing at No.24, 2nd Floor, Mackan Road, Bharathi Nagar, Bengaluru-560001 have changed my name to Mubshera Mohammad Jakir Khatri vide affidavit dated 07-07-2025 before Meer Hassan, Notary, B'luru.

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer,(Metro Rail Project),
No. 14/3, 1st Floor,Aravindha Bhavana Building, Nrupathunga Road, Bangalore-560001.

No. KIADB/LAQ/METRO/Phase-2B/2025-26 Date: 04.07.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE (Under section 28(2) of KIAD Act)

It is hereby given publication for the information of the public that the KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD Bangalore has proposed to acquire the following scheduled properties for the purpose of Phase-2B K.R. Puram station to Kempegowda International Airport Station, Traction Services Station (TSS). The Preliminary Notification Under Section 1(3), 3(1) & 28(1) in this behalf is issued vide Notification No: CI 87 SPQ 2025 Bangalore dated **26-06-2025** by the Government of Karnataka and the same has already been published in the Karnataka Gazette dated **26-06-2025.**

All the absolute owners and interested persons in the Schedule properties specified below shall file their OBJECTIONS IF ANY to the undersigned , Notice u/s 28(2) of KIAD Act, has already been served to the notified Khatedar/Anubhavdar, interested persons. As some of the property owners refused to receive the notice and address of some of the Khatedars are not available, notices could not be served. Hence, this notice is published in the News papers to provide opportunity to them.

Any contracts for the disposal of the said lands buy sale. Mortgage, Assignment, Exchange or otherwise or any improvement made therein without prior permission of the competent authority, after the date of publication of this notification under the provisions of Right to Fair Compensation and in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 and KIAD Act 1966 will be disregarded while assessing compensation for such parts of the said lands as may be finally acquired.

The map of the area comprised therein and the notification specifying the lands which is proposed to be acquired may be verified in the Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer, KIADB, (Metro Rail Project) Bangalore during the office hours on all working days. Enquiry is fixed on **30-07-2025 at 11.30 AM** in the Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer, K.I.A.D.B. (Metro Rail Project), No. 14/3, 1st Floor, Aravindha Bhavana Building, Bangalore. Interested persons are hereby requested to be present with relevant documents. Failing which, further action will be taken in accordance with law.

Schedule

Enquiry Date:30-07-2025 **Time: 11.30 am**

Village : Chikka Jala **Hobli: Jala-1** **Taluk: Yelahanka** **District : Bangalore**

SL No	Property Owner	I.D. No	L.A/CTS No	B.B.M.P. Property No	Area acquired (sq.Mtr)
1	Decathlon Sports India Private Limited	ARP-CHKJ-1	79/1	7-13/12/2013	589.41
			78/9	7-13/12/2013	27.03
				Total	616.44

SD/-
Special Land Acquisition Officer-1, (Metro Rail Project),
Nrupathunga Road, Bangalore-560001.
DIPR/CP/1606/Zen/2025-26

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Chief Commissioner, Annex Building-1, N.R. Square, Bangalore-560002.

No: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/844/2025-26 FORM – III (See Sub-rule (3) of rule-3) Date: 04.07.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section **14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act,1961** the following 'Area' mentioned in the schedule below is required by the Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for **Widening of K.Channasandra Main Road From Channasandra Circle to Rampura Cross (Bhairathi-Avalahalli Road) for implementing the proposals of the Approved Master Plan-2015 for the width of 24.00mtrs.**

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of land / building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District : **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk : **Bengaluru East** Name of the Village : **Kalkere**

Sy. No / Khatha no.	Block	Type of land: Vacant	Type of land: Built up	Nature of Land: Agriculture Converted Undeveloped Approved layout / developed land Building Site	Dimension of the land / plot and extent in Sq.m: Dimension Extent	Boundaries of the land / plot: East	West	North	South	Building details: Extent in Sq.m	Type of Construction and No. of floors	Floor Area Ratio	Present activity on land/ Building (Specify Specific activity such as shop, office, factory, apartment, Individual house etc.,	Market (guidelines) value of the land per Sq.m	Name and address of the owner of the plot/ land for which DRC is to be issued
Sy No.161/3	(Block-I)	Vacant land		Agriculture Land	75.97	Remaining Portion of Sy No.161/3	Road	Sy No.161/9	Sy No.162	None	None	None	Vacant	85,000/-	Sri.D.H Sunil Kumar S/o Dodda Hanumanthappa, R/a No.157, 1st Cross, K.Channasandra, Horamavu, Bangalore-560043.
	(Block-II)				103.31	TDR Given Property	Remaining Portin of Sy No.161/3	Sy No.161/2	Sy No.162	None	None	None	Vacant	85,000/-	

Note:
- Market guideline value of this property is considered subject to conditions of payment of fee as per Government Order No. NAE 137. MNU 2024 (E), Dated: 09.09.2024 and as per the Circular No. Commissioner/P.S.R/G/1802/2024-25, Dated: 21.09.2024,
- Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below:

Name and address of the Divisional / Sub divisional / branch office	Deputy Commissioner, Land Acquisition & TDR, 2nd Floor, Room No: 208, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bangalore-560002.

Sd/- Chief Commissioner
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my clients **Mr. N.M. Muddappa** son of N.S. Muthanna has intend to purchase the immovable property described in the Schedule hereunder from its owners **Mr.LINGAPPA.M** and his family members. Any person/s, financial institutions etc., having any claims /right/interest in respect of the Scheduled Property may file their objections with the undermentioned with documentary evidence within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no claims are received within the stipulated period it will be presumed that there is no claim in respect of the Scheduled Property and my clients will be proceeding to purchase the same.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of agricultural land bearing Survey No.72/1 measuring 31.08 Guntas, out of 1 acre 23 guntas, Situated at Doddatumkur Village, Madhure Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District and bounded as follows:- East By : Sy.No. 72/1 belonged to Narasimma Murthy, West By : Sy.No. 74, North By : Sy.No. 72/2 & 3, South By : Sy.Nos. 75 & 74.

Lakshmi Law Associates
Advocates and Consultants
Having office at No.28, 12th Cross, Vinayaka Layout, Manorayana Palya, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 032.
Phone No : 78298 29935

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಂಕ್ರಾಮಿಕ ರೋಗಗಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ
ಕೆ.ಆರ್.ಎಸ್.ರಸ್ತೆ. ಮೇಟಗಳ್ಳಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ –571311
ಕಛೇರಿ : 0821-2517555, ಇಮೇಲ್ : mysoreds@com

ಸಂ: ಜಿಆ&ಸಾಂರೋಆಮೈ/ಸರಬಎಬಿಆರ್‌ಕೆ/ll/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07.07.2025

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಂಕ್ರಾಮಿಕ ರೋಗಗಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ **2025–26**ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಬೇಕಾಗಿರುವ ಔಷಧಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸರ್ಜಿಕಲ್ ಸಾಮಾಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ.

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ **ದಿನಾಂಕ 07.07.2025 2)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಅಪ್ ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ 07.07.2025 3)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ : 15.07.2025 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ 4)** ಪ್ರಿ–ಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆ **ದಿನಾಂಕ : 10.07.2025ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11:00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ 5)** ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆಯನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ : 17.07.2025 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11:00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ 6)** ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ಸಮಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19.07.2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ:11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ 7)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ. 70.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು 8)** ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪಾವತಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ. 1,40,000/– 9)** ವ್ಯವಹರಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ವಿವರ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಳಾಸ : **ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಶಸ್ತ್ರಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಕರು, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಂಕ್ರಾಮಿಕ ರೋಗಗಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು. ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ನಂ. : 9980134827.**

ಸಹಿ/–
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಶಸ್ತ್ರಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಕರು
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಾರ್ವಕ್ರಾಮಿಕ ರೋಗಗಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ

DIPR/MYS/596/SA/2025-26

Capital Region Urban Transport
Plot No-548/1452, Patia, Kalarahanga,
Bhubaneswar, Odisha (INDIA), Pin -751024.
E-Mail :- crutbbsr@gmail.com ; Phone No. 0674-3501580

Notice No. 1536 / CRUT **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL** Date: 07/07/2025

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR SELECTION OF REVENUE COLLECTION AGENCY FOR COLLECTION OF FARE BOX REVENUE FROM CITY BUS SERVICES OPERATED BY CRUT, ODISHA

Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT) invites Proposal from interested agencies for the above-mentioned purpose. Please refer the RFP document for details.

- The RFP document shall be available from **08/07/2025** onwards in following web portal:**www.capitalregiontransport.in**. **Any further intimation (i.e. Corrigendum/Addendum/Responses to the queries/ Clarifications) shall be uploaded in the above website only.**
- Applicants are required to submit duly filled Proposal as per the prescribed formats on or before **28/07/2025 by 5:00 PM**. The Proposals received shall be opened at **12:00 Noon on 29/07/2025.**
- In case of any queries/clarifications, email at **crutbbsr@gmail.com**
- CRUT reserves the right to accept or reject bid process without assigning any reasons thereof.

General Manager (P&A), Capital Region Urban Transport
C-628 : OIPR-13183/11/0046/2526

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Auction Catalogue No: MYS-SLU-MMEC-25
Dated : 16-07-2025
The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works.

Stations	Category/ Sub-Category
Sasalu Railway Station & Mineral Enterprises Limited (MMEC) Siding	Misc-Static-Services (BOXN Wagon Cleaning)

Date & Time of E-Auctioning : 16.07.2025 at 15.00 hours.
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Mysuru
PUB/265/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
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CACHE

Space war: U.S. President Donald Trump makes an announcement regarding the Golden Dome, next to U.S. Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth, in the White House in Washington, D.C., U.S., on May 20. REUTERS

On the Golden Dome: how Trump's missile shield tests space law

Such a shield would involve deploying a constellation of satellite interceptors, potentially armed with kinetic or directed-energy weapons, to form a protective layer over the U.S. This has left India, a key U.S. partner in space situational awareness, tactically aligned but normatively conflicted

Shrawani Shagun

From golden citadels to divine shields, rulers across time have dreamt of impregnable security. But in every age, these ambitions have either collapsed under their own weight or have provoked greater instability. In 2025, this ancient dream went to orbit.

In May, U.S. President Donald Trump unveiled a bold new national defence initiative called the "Golden Dome", a $175-billion space-based missile shield designed to fend off ballistic, hypersonic, and orbital threats. The plan involves deploying a constellation of satellite interceptors, potentially armed with kinetic or directed-energy weapons, to form a protective layer over the U.S.

Framed as a defence move, the project has sparked concerns worldwide for its geopolitical ramifications as well as for its implications under international space law. In particular, the Golden Dome challenges the Outer Space Treaty's limits, raises constitutional concerns within the U.S., and puts pressure on key strategic partners such as India.

Loophole or legal red line?

At the heart of the legal debate is Article IV of the Outer Space Treaty (OST), 1967. It prohibits placing "nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction" in orbit or stationing them "in outer space in any other manner". It further mandates that celestial bodies shall be used "exclusively for peaceful purposes".

The language of Article IV, particularly its explicit focus on Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs), has created a loophole for conventional weapons in space. The term "peaceful purposes" has been subject to various interpretations, with some nations claiming that it permits all non-aggressive military use, while others insist it implies complete demilitarisation.

The treaty further states: "The establishment of military bases, installations and fortifications, the testing of any type of weapons and the conduct of military manoeuvres on celestial bodies shall be forbidden." The use of military personnel for scientific research or any other peaceful purposes isn't prohibited, however. The use of any equipment or facility necessary to peacefully explore the moon and other celestial bodies is also not prohibited (Article IV).

Because the Golden Dome's interceptors are not classified as WMDs, they don't violate the letter of Article IV per se. There are a few concerns nonetheless. In arms control, the practical outcome must always take precedence over the technical details or official classifications of a weapon. This means what a weapon is called matters far less than its actual strategic effect.

For instance, if kinetic interceptors are used to disable or destroy missiles or satellites, their impact could fundamentally alter the balance of power in space. This capability could create a dangerous first-strike advantage for one nation, thereby eroding the principle of mutual deterrence, which relies on the threat of retaliation to prevent an attack. Such a development would undermine the core goal of arms control treaties, which is to foster stability through restraint, and could trigger a significant and destabilising shift in the dynamics of power in outer space.

UN General Assembly resolutions under the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS) Treaty, while lacking legal enforceability, have successfully established an interpretive norm against the militarisation of space. The deployment of space-based interceptors, therefore, directly threatens this norm and could trigger a cascade of similar actions by other nations.

These systems are plagued by dual-use ambiguity. A kinetic interceptor, ostensibly for missile defence, possesses the inherent capability to be instantly repurposed to neutralise an adversary's vital communication or surveillance satellites. This inherent uncertainty risks inflaming suspicion and driving miscalculation, especially during heightened crises involving major space powers like China and Russia, both of which have already explicitly condemned the proposed deployment.

Partners in crossfire

India, a rising space power and a key U.S. partner in satellite tracking and space situational awareness, now finds itself tactically aligned but normatively conflicted. Quiet cooperation in areas like debris monitoring could tacitly link India to the Golden Dome's strategic ecosystem. However, India is also a vocal champion of peaceful space use. It has consistently supported PAROS resolutions and has positioned itself as a leader of the Global South in advocating for equitable and demilitarised space governance.

Supporting or even appearing to tolerate the Golden Dome could undermine that credibility, damaging India's image as a responsible spacefaring nation and a potential norm-setter in future treaty negotiations. Conversely, non-cooperation might strain its growing strategic ties with Washington. This dilemma becomes even more consequential in the context of India's pending Space Activities Bill, which will shape how the country defines and regulates dual-use platforms, private-sector participation, and treaty compliance.

The Golden Dome is thus more than a U.S. policy issue: it's a litmus test for India's own legal and diplomatic posture and could significantly influence the direction and content of the Space Activities Bill.

Less than golden precedent

The broader concern is that the Golden Dome will normalise the weaponisation of outer space. If the U.S. crosses this threshold without facing legal repercussions, China, Russia, and other actors are likely to follow suit. This could trigger a destabilising cycle of orbital arms races, forcing smaller nations to resort to asymmetric capabilities, such as cyberattacks, jamming or even the deliberate generation of debris in orbit.

Such developments would not only weaken the OST's authority but could also unravel the fragile consensus that has governed space for over half a century. In the absence of updated and enforceable treaties, outer space risks becoming a legal grey zone or, worse, a battlefield governed by force rather than law.

Thus, the Golden Dome is more than a military gamble or a political spectacle. It's a legal inflection point for space governance in the 21st century. It exposes loopholes in a 58-year-old treaty, reveals structural weaknesses in domestic oversight, and underscores the urgent and immediate need for modern legal instruments that can keep pace with technological realities.

Strategic partners, such as India, along with like-minded spacefaring nations, should notably push to clarify and modernise the OST, especially the parts pertaining to dual-use and conventional space-based weapons. Advocacy for legally binding instruments on the non-deployment of weapons in space is of paramount importance. This pursuit of international agreements, which play a crucial role, should be complemented by establishing comprehensive transparency mechanisms for military space projects to reduce ambiguity and mistrust.

It's also crucial that national laws, such as India's Space Activities Bill, include clear guidelines for defence cooperation in space, fostering responsible practices both domestically and globally.

Shrawani Shagun is pursuing a PhD at National Law University, Delhi, focusing on environmental sustainability and space governance.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know Your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"Last week you talked about the expression 'throw someone for a loop'."

"Yes, that's right."

"Well, Sujatha says it's wrong. She says that the expression is 'in the loop'."

" 'In the loop' and 'throw someone for a loop' have two different meanings. When you throw someone for a loop, you..."

"...you surprise or confuse someone. I know that."

"I'm glad you remember. When you say that someone is 'in the loop', it means that the person is 'part of a group of people who make decisions about important subjects'."

"So, if a person is 'in the loop', he/she is part of an inner circle. Is that what you are saying?"

"Exactly! For example, I can say, if you want to know what's happening, ask Rajagopal. As the chairman of the Board, he is in the loop."

"Our local MLA hasn't a clue as to what the Chief Minister is up to. I don't think he is in the loop."

"Good example. Do you know what the opposite of 'in the loop' is?"

"Is it 'off the loop'?"

"No, it's 'out of the loop'. You could have said our local MLA is out of the loop on policy decisions."

"Everyone at school knows that the Vice-Principal is out of the loop."

"The Finance Minister claims that he was out of the loop and doesn't know who gave the order to increase the price of petrol."

"If the Finance Minister was out of the loop, who was in the loop, then?"

"Good question. Anyway, that was just an example. I hope that the present Finance Minister is in the loop, not out of it."

"So does everyone else in the country. By the way, did you look at the photographs that my father took last week?"

"I saw them. I didn't really look at them. Why do you...?"

"...wait a minute! You mean to tell me there is a difference between 'look at' and 'see'?"

"Yes, there is. When you 'look at' something, you pay attention to what you are seeing."

"In other words, you concentrate."

"Exactly. Whatever you do, you do so deliberately. For example, I looked at the painting for half an hour."

"I looked at the little girl crossing the street – in this case, it would mean that I paid particular attention to her?"

"That's right. If on the other hand, you say 'I saw the young girl cross the street', it could mean that you accidentally saw the girl."

"What do you mean accidentally?"

"It means that you weren't paying any particular attention to her. She just happened to come in your line of vision, so you ended up seeing her."

"But tell me, is there a difference between 'look at' and 'watch'? I mean, can I say..."

"...yes, there is a difference between 'watch' and 'look at'. But we'll talk about it next time."

Published in The Hindu on March 4, 1997.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

With South African captain Wiaan Mulder scoring an unbeaten 367 on Monday, a quiz on triple centurions in Test cricket

V.V. Ramanan

QUESTION 1
As of July 7, 2025, 29 batters have notched up 33 triple centuries. Who was the first to achieve the feat?

QUESTION 2
Apart from Don Bradman and Virender Sehwag, which other batters have scored two triple tons in Tests?

QUESTION 3
Like Mulder, name the two Asian stars who were also helming their team while getting a triple hundred?

QUESTION 4
In a rare occurrence, the teams that played in the first two England-India Tests in the current series had a batter who had scored a 300+ for his team. Name both.

QUESTION 5
What connects Headingley in Leeds and Antigua Recreation Ground in St. John's?

QUESTION 6
What is common to the triple tons scored by Graham Gooch, Sanath Jayasuriya, Michael Clarke and Brendon McCullum?

Visual question:
This image is from the 319 notched up by Virender Sehwag in 2008. What is special about the knock? V. GANESAN

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This revolutionary group in Bengal served as a militant wing of the Anushilan Samiti. **Ans: Jugantar**
2. This revolutionary died fighting British forces on the banks of the Buribalam river in Odisha in 1915. **Ans: Bagha Jatin (Jatindranath Mukherjee)**
3. The Chittagong Armoury Raid of 1930 was led by which this revolutionary. **Ans: Surya Sen**
4. This revolutionary was hanged for the Writers' Building attack in 1931. **Ans: Dinesh Gupta**
5. This person founded the Communist Consolidation, a political group formed by inmates of the Cellular Jail in 1935. **Ans: Hare Krishna Konar**
6. Acharya's dissatisfaction with Congress politics led him to write for this leftist publication. **Ans:** *Freedom* **(an anarchist periodical)**
7. The legal charge against the defendants in the Meerut Conspiracy Case under the Indian Penal Code. **Ans: Section 121A – Conspiracy to wage war against the King**
Visual: Identify this man. **Ans: Asaf Ali**
Early Birds: Nobody got all the correct answers

Word of the day

Desultory:
marked by lack of a definite plan or regularity or purpose; jumping from one thing to another

Usage: *A few people were dancing in a desultory fashion.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/desultorypro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈdɛs.əl.t(ə).ɹi/, /ˈdɛz.əl.t(ə).ɹi/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE

Smarter Study Starts Here: Why the Future of Learning Has Intel Inside

India is racing towards a digitally empowered future, and nowhere is this transformation more urgent or more promising than in education. With over 418 million students, including more than 80 million in K–12, the scale is staggering. These young learners are not just tomorrow's workforce. They are the architects of the nation's future. For them, education must go beyond textbooks. It must be accessible, intelligent, and adaptive.

But ambition often collides with reality. Fewer than six in ten schools have functional computers, and only 34 percent are connected to the internet. The digital divide is not just a gap in access. It represents a lost opportunity, especially in rural and under-resourced communities. If India is to unlock its demographic dividend, technology in education must shift from being a luxury to becoming a necessity.

Beyond the Computer Lab: From Occasional Access to Everyday Engagement

For years, technology in schools meant a weekly session in a shared computer lab. It was more of a ritual than a meaningful tool. Parents often approached laptops with caution, concerned about digital distractions, excessive screen time, and the erosion of traditional academic discipline.

Yet the world surrounding students has changed rapidly. Curricula have become denser, competition more intense, and the pressure to perform more persistent. Today's learners must juggle schoolwork, entrance preparation, co-curriculars, and an overload of information. What they need is not just access to technology, but intelligent support that brings structure, clarity, and efficiency.

Intel's AI-powered PCs are designed with exactly this in mind. These devices go beyond basic computing. They summarise chapters with a click, handle multiple apps without slowing down, and support creative tasks like building digital prototypes for class projects. They help students manage time better, simplify difficult concepts, and develop the confidence to learn more deeply and independently.

Balancing Tradition with Innovation

Education holds deep emotional and cultural significance in Indian homes. For many families, academic success represents years of discipline, savings, and hope. Any conversation about integrating technology into education must respect these values, not replace them.

Intel recognises this balance. The aim is not to sideline teachers or replace parental guidance. Instead, Intel's approach strengthens what already works. AI becomes an invisible aid, helping students revise faster, stay organised, and explore topics more thoroughly. The focus remains on real learning, supported by smart tools that are seamlessly integrated into students' daily routines.

Padhai Ka Future: Rethinking How India Learns

Intel's Padhai Ka Future initiative reimagines modern education by putting AI-powered devices at the core of the learning experience. The goal is to help students thrive in a world that is being reshaped by technology, not just adapt to it.

Through collaborations with education technology platforms such as CuriousJr, GUVI, HackerKID, iPrep, and Infinity Learn, Intel delivers curriculum-aligned content in engaging formats. These integrations turn devices into dynamic learning environments, making subjects like coding, maths, and science more accessible and enjoyable.

To build lasting digital fluency, Intel also supports students with AI certifications, expert mentorship, and peer-to-peer learning networks. These offerings help learners move beyond rote memorisation, encouraging exploration, creativity, and a deeper understanding of what they study.

To explore these programmes and resources, visit: intel.in/padhai-ka-future

Bringing Smart Devices Within Reach

Even the smartest learning tools are only effective if students can actually use them. That is why Intel is partnering with leading retailers like Flipkart, Amazon, Croma, Reliance Digital, and Vijay Sales to make AI PCs more accessible to Indian families.

Through these partnerships, students and parents can benefit from exclusive discounts, bundled educational software, and seasonal offers tailored to the academic calendar. Dedicated Intel brand pages on e-commerce platforms feature curated device recommendations and buying guides, helping families make informed decisions based on learning needs and budget.

This effort is not just about affordability. It is about creating real pathways to digital inclusion, one household at a time.

A New Definition of Readiness

Artificial Intelligence is no longer a futuristic concept. It is already shaping how we live, work, and learn. For today's students, being academically ready is not just about mastering content. It also means developing digital skills, critical thinking, and the confidence to solve real-world problems.

Intel-powered AI PCs are enabling this transformation. These are not just devices. They are learning companions that support students from the first day of school to their final exam. They help learners focus, understand, create, and stay ahead in a fast-moving world.

The classroom is evolving. The learner is evolving. And with Intel inside, the future of education is not only smarter. It is more human, more inclusive, and more promising than ever before.

intel

Why Does Pythagoras Theorem Only Work
For Right Triangles?

Tackle doubts with simplified explanations on Intel-powered AI PCs

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Padhai Ka Future

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Brand* / Model Name**	ASUS Zenbook 14 (35.56cm Display)	Lenovo Yoga Slim 7i (38.86cm Display)	Acer Swift Neo OLED (35.56cm Display)	HP Envy x360 (35.6cm Display)	Dell Inspiron 5330 (33.78cm Display)
Discount up to*2	₹42 000	₹35 900	₹44 500	₹29 383	₹32 000
Cashback up to*3	₹9 000	₹5 000	₹2 500	₹6 000	₹5 000
Exchange Bonus up to*4	₹10 000	₹6 000	₹2 000	-	-
Maximum Savings up to*5	₹61 000	₹46 900	₹49 000	₹35 383	₹37 000
EMI*6	Starting at ₹5 999/month	Starting at ₹5 999/month	Starting at ₹4 041/month	Starting at ₹3 750/month	Starting at ₹6 667/month

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*4Exchange bonus amount may vary by laptop model. Please reach out to laptop brands, retail stores or market places for more details.
*5Terms and Conditions Apply. Please reach out to laptop brands, retail stores or market places for more details.
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Aiyar's jibe at Modi is a desperate effort to stay relevant: BYV

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Opposition BJP in Karnataka has ridiculed Congress leader Mani Shankar Aiyar for describing Prime Minister Narendra Modi as the "worst-ever Prime Minister".

In a social media post, BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra said: "Congress leader Mani Shankar Aiyar's recent remarks at the Mysuru Literature Festival, calling Prime Minister Narendra Modi the worst-ever Prime Minister is nothing more than a desperate attempt to remain relevant by courting controversy."

He said such baseless and fact-free assertions do not befit someone who has spent decades in public life.

"Rather than outrage, I feel only amused at Mr. Aiyar's futile attempt to rewrite political reality. Calling Prime Minister Modi the worst-ever PM is not just laughable, it is an insult to the democratic wisdom of crores of Indians who have, time and again, placed their faith in his leadership, inspired by his performance, vision and unwavering commitment to national development. Under his leadership, India has entered a new era of governance marked by rapid infrastructure growth, digital transformation, effective welfare delivery, and a confident, respected voice on the global stage," he said.

Sudden heart attack deaths among persons under 45 now declared notifiable

Health Department takes decision on a recommendation by the expert committee set up to study the link between COVID-19 vaccination and sudden cardiovascular events

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

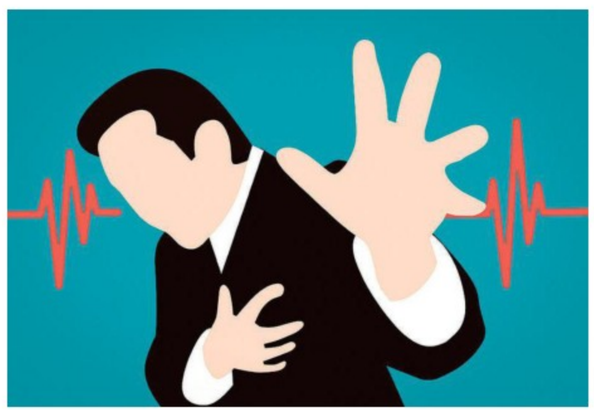
All sudden heart attack deaths among people aged below 45 in Karnataka will now have to be notified to the Health Department.

On Monday, the department declared sudden heart attack deaths among people below 45 as 'notifiable' on the basis of a recommendation by an expert committee that was set up to study the link between COVID-19 vaccination and sudden cardiovascular events.

The committee is headed by K.S. Ravindranath, director of the State-run Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, Bengaluru.

Amid mounting public anxiety over the rising trend of sudden cardiovascular events (heart attack, sudden cardiac death) after COVID-19, the Karnataka government this February set up the expert committee to evaluate the temporal and potential causal links with prior SARS-CoV-2 infection and/or COVID-19 vaccination.

The committee has not found any association between premature cardiovascular disease and a prior history of COVID-19 infection or vaccination.



There is mounting public anxiety over the rising trend of sudden cardiovascular events (heart attack, sudden cardiac death) after COVID-19. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao, who made the announcement on Monday after a meeting to discuss the recommendations of the expert committee, said the Karnataka government would start monitoring sudden heart attack deaths reported among those below 45.

"Any such deaths that occur outside a hospital will have to be mandatorily reported to the department. Following the committee's recommendations, we will now make the autopsy of all such deaths compulsory to ascertain the cause. Directions in this regard will be issued soon," the Minister said.

Pointing out that the observational study by the State's expert panel as well as several published international studies had not found any link between COVID-19 vaccination and cardiovascular events, the Minister stated: "In fact, the vaccination has been shown to be protective against cardiac events in the long term."

The Minister said: "We will start screening of congenital heart defects in schoolchildren aged 15 and above. Training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), an emergency procedure that is done when someone's breathing or heartbeat has stopped, will be provided to the public through NGOs and like-minded organisations. We will also start annual basic health screening for all government employees, including outsourced and contract staff," Mr. Rao said.

Pointing out that all corporate and private companies will be directed to provide annual health screening for their employees, the Minister said: "We are also screening people for non-communicable diseases through our Gruha Arogya scheme. We will soon discuss with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on what further health benefits can be given to our employees".

He said the Puneeth Rajkumar Hrudaya Jyothi scheme – that is currently being implemented in 86 government hospitals – will soon be extended to all taluks.

AEDs in public places

The Minister said the process of installing automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in public places will be expedited.

"Although we had announced this earlier, there were some hitches as we need trained personnel. We will again explore possibilities of deploying trained personnel from the nearest health facilities in designated public places wherever possible and start providing this service soon," he said.

CM and DKS visiting Delhi; appointments to boards likely to be discussed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Even as All India Congress Committee (AICC) general secretary in charge of Karnataka Randeep Singh Surjewala continues his meetings with Congress legislators in the State this week, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar are set to go to Delhi. While both are going for official purposes, the timing has set off speculation, and according to sources discussions on appointments to boards and corporations could figure in meetings.

Mr. Shivakumar on Monday told reporters in Bengaluru that he was going to Delhi on Tuesday to meet Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil since he had scheduled an appointment to discuss forest land issues pertaining to the Yettinahole project in Hassan and Tumakuru.

When asked if he would meet the party high command, the KPCC president said: "The party office is like a temple for us. I make it a point to visit it and offer our prayers."

Dasara festivities

A note from the Chief Minister's Office on Monday said that Mr. Siddaramaiah will also be reaching Delhi on Wednesday to meet Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to discuss the air show during Dasara festivities in Mysuru.

Sources said that though

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will meet Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar will call on Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil. FILE PHOTO

Sources said though Siddaramaiah was to meet Randeep Singh Surjewala in Bengaluru, the meeting is likely to happen in Delhi

Mr. Siddaramaiah was to meet Mr. Surjewala in Bengaluru to discuss appointments to boards and corporations – the delay has been attributed as one reason for legislators and party functionaries to become restive – the meeting is likely to happen in Delhi.

"Mr. Siddaramaiah was to have met Mr. Surjewala in Bengaluru on July 9 evening. Since the Chief Minister's appointment with the Defence Minister was fixed for July 9 in Delhi, Mr. Siddaramaiah is likely to meet the party's Central leader in Delhi on July 10. Mr. Shivakumar will also be part of the meeting," sources said, adding that if other senior leaders are available, the Chief Minister could possibly meet them.

Meanwhile, Home Minister G. Parameshwara told reporters here that he would meet Mr. Surjewala if he is called as he was unable to meet him last week. He also said that the Rambhapuri Mutt seer's statement seeking the Chief Minister's post for Mr. Shivakumar was his personal statement. "What is wrong with that?"

Lorry operators suspend grain transport across Karnataka

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government's flagship Anna Bhagya scheme may soon run into trouble as the Federation of Karnataka State Lorry Owners and Agents' Association suspended rice and food grain transportation across the State on Monday. This move is expected to impact the delivery of subsidised grains to ration shops.

The association has cited non-payment of dues for over six months as the reason for their decision. Federation president G.R. Shanmugappa said that transporters involved in moving foodgrains under the Anna Bhagya scheme have not received payment since February.

The Federation of Karnataka State Lorry Owners and Agents' Association has cited non-payment of dues for over six months as the reason for their decision. FILE PHOTO

Further compounding their frustration, lorry operators who had participated in the government's tender process were required to deposit ₹4 lakh each as earnest money deposit (EMD). According to Mr. Shanmugappa, the total amount due to be refunded stands at ₹25 crore to ₹30 crore.

The association highlighted that despite a meeting with government officials on June 19, where a promise was made to clear the dues by July 5, there has been no progress. The federation has now appealed to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar to intervene.

I have no complaints against Ministers, says Laxman Savadi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Unlike MLAs who expressed their complaints against the style of functioning of Ministers in the Congress government, Laxman Savadi, Congress MLA for Athani constituency in Belagavi district, said he had no complaints against Ministers and all of them extended their support to him.

Mr. Savadi, who quit the BJP and joined the Congress on the eve of the 2023 Assembly polls, on Monday met AICC general secretary in charge of Karnataka Randeep Singh Surjewala at the party office here and gave various suggestions to strengthen the party's organisation in Belagavi district.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, the MLA said Mr. Surjewala has been seeking legislators' views on development works in the constituency, Ministers' cooperation in implementing development works, and the party's organisation in the district to prepare for the 2028 Assembly polls.

Mr. Savadi said: "I neither have a cold nor a hot war with Ministers. All Ministers are cooperating with me and my relations with them are good".

Mr. Savadi's response assumes significance in the wake of many legislators publicly levelling charges against Ministers.

Meanwhile, Mr. Surjewala continued his meetings with MLAs of Kalaburagi and Belagavi divisions as part of a performance review. He will continue to gather information from ruling party legislators for the next two days. Last week, he collected opinions about the State administration and implementation of guarantees from MLAs of Bengaluru and Mysuru divisions.

Asked about Chief Minister Siddaramaiah being made a member of the party's OBC advisory panel, Mr. Savadi said the party included his name to use his expertise on the subject since he belonged to the OBC category. Just by inclusion of the name, one should not draw the conclusion that the Chief Minister was moving to national politics, he said.

Minister's fiat to officials

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Minister for Animal Husbandry and Sericulture K. Venkatesh has directed officials to respond swiftly to complaints of wild animal menace. Presiding over the Karnataka Development Programme meeting on Monday, he said the department was receiving many complaints over human-animal conflicts.

'Over 200 illegal Bangladeshis deported'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Home Minister G. Parameshwara on Monday said that over 200 Bangladeshi nationals illegally staying in Karnataka have been deported so far.

Speaking to pressperssons here, he said that the FRRO officials identify the foreign nationals following which they will be deported. "It is a continuous process. Some say that their numbers are high among construction workers. If such people are found, we will deport them. The Congress is not desperate to get illegal migrants and win elections."

Govt. of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Sri Malai Mahadeswara Swamy Kshethra Development Authority,
Mahadeswara Hills, Hanur Taluk, Chamarajanagar District.
Telephone No. : 08225-272128 / Fax : 272123 Email : sec.mmtemple@gmail.com

No. SMMKDA/4/PR/85/2024-25 Dated : 27-06-2025

TENDER DOCUMENT No.

The Secretary, Sri Malai Mahadeshwara Swamy Kshethra Development Authority, M.M. hills, Invites tender for the Providing & Installation of Furniture's to Vajramale Bhavan Guest House (370 Rooms) At Sri Malai Mahadeshwara Hills through e-procurement platform **from Registered & Licenced Contractors** for the use of Vajramale Guest House (370 Rooms).

Calender of Events :

1.	Tender Reference No and date	SMMKDA/4/PR/85/2024-25
2.	Amount put to Tender	**Rs. 1300.00 Lakh**
3.	Pre-bid meeting. Place : Office of the Secretary, SMMKDA, MM Hills, Hanur Tq Chamarajanagar Dist.	17-07-2025 12.00 hrs
4.	Last date & Time for submission of Tender	28-07-2025 16.00 hrs
5.	Date & Time of opening of Technical bid	30-07-2025 17.00 hrs
6.	Date & Time of opening of Financial Bid	After Evaluation of Technical Bid Date will be intimated to Successful Agencies
7.	EMD Amount	**Rs. 13,00,000/-**
8.	Venue of opening of tenders & address for communication	**Sri Malai Mahadeshwara Swamy Kshethra Development Authority, Mahadeshwara Hills, Hanur Taluk Chamarajanagar District** Telephone No. : 08225-272128 Email : sec.mmtemple@gmail.com

DIPR : CHANAGAR:188:2025-26

Sd/- Secretary, Sri Malai Mahadeswara Swamy Kshethra Development Authority, Mahadeswara Hills, Hanur Tq, Chamarajanagar District.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The attention of the General public is Hereby Drawn that our Client **Sri.Mahadev Raju S/o Raju,** has entered into agreement of sale with **Smt. Hansa Devi W/o.Takur Surendra Singh** and **Mr. Gajendra Singh S/o. Takur Surendra Singh** and others in respect of the schedule property. Pursuant to which our client has filed a suit for Specific Performance of contract and other reliefs before the VII Addl Senior Civil Judge Bengaluru Rural Benagaluru in O.S. NO 1032/2025 against **1. Smt. Hansa Devi, 2. Mr. Gajendra Singh 3. Sri.K.S. Huchaveerappa** S/o **K. Sidappa** and **4. Sri.B.Darmappa** S/o **Bheemappa** The Public is hereby informed not to deal with the aforesaid persons or in respect of schedule property and if anybody does so they would be doing so with their risk and costs. Contact Number: **9535822202.**

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property vacant land Sy No 18/18 measuring 42 Acres 08 Guntas and 1 Acre 10 Guntas of Kharab Land, and Sy No 18/19 measuring 43 Acres and 1, Acre 16 Guntas of Kharab land total measuring 85 Acres 8 Guntas and 2 Acres 26 Guntas of Karab, carved out of Sy No. 18/1 Situated at UTTARAHALLI MANVARTHE KAVAL VILLAGE, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,

ITEM No.1

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being a Agricultural Dry land bearing Survey No.18/18, measuring 42 Acres 08 Guntas Land, 01 Acre 10 guntas Kharab land, totaly measuring 43 Acres 18 Guntas Land, Situated at UTTARAHALLI MANVARTHE KAVAL VILLAGE, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, and bounded as follows :-

East by: Mallasandra Village Boundary, **West by:** Land bearing Sy. No.15/3, **North by:** Land bearing Sy. No.18/1, Sy No.21 **South by :** and Private Land, Badamanavarthe Kaval Village Boundary.

ITEM NO.2

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being a Agricultural Dry land bearing Survey No.18/19, measuring 43-00 Acres, 01 Acre 16 guntas Kharab land, totally 44 Acres 16 Guntas, Situated at UTTARAHALLI MANVARTHE KAVAL VILLAGE, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, and bounded as follows :-

East by : Land bearing Sy. No.18/1, **West by :** Land bearing Sy. No.18/4 & Sy. No. 15, **North by :** Land bearing Sy. No.18/1, **South by :** Land bearing Sy. No.18/1.

Date : 08-07-2025
Place : Bengaluru

BSPS Associates and Advocates
#207 2nd floor Swiss Complex,
Race Course Road, Bangalore-01

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

SAD DEMISE

"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die"

Ln. D. PATTABHIRAMAN
Ex. Grindlays Bank
H/o Late Dr. Shanta Pattabhiraman
DOB: 05.10.1932 - DOD: 07.07.2025
Last rites on 09.07.2025
2182-A, 12th Main Road, Anna Nagar, Chennai-600040.
Deeply mourned by
D.P. Suresh, Subhadra, Shrinath, Karthik
D.P. Venkatesh, Madhu, Friends & Relatives.
Mob: +91-97910-42840

REMEMBRANCE

4th YEAR REMEMBRANCE

(07.07.2021)
Shri GOPI MOHAN NAIR
You are a constant reminder of how important patience, discipline, and hard work is in life. Your memory can never fade away from our hearts and minds.
IN LOVING MEMORY
Puppy (Daughter), Naani (Son), Minimol,
Amulu, Allu, Rukma, Prabhakar & Thejumol,
Shri CPK Menon, Smt Anandam Menon. & Family.

Nipah patient from Palakkad remains in critical condition; 173 people on contact list

The Hindu Bureau
KOZHIKODE

Veena George

As a Palakkad native who tested positive for Nipah is fighting for her life at the Government Medical College in Kozhikode, the Kerala government has intensified measures to prevent the spread of the disease around her village.

Health Minister Veena George told presspersons in Palakkad after a review meeting on Monday that the 38-year old patient was administered two doses of monoclonal antibody, used as a potential treatment for Nipah infection.

As many as 173 people have been included on the contact list, 100 on the primary list and 73 on the secondary list. Of them, 52 are in the high-risk category, while 48 are in the low-risk category.

The samples of five people who had developed symptoms tested in the district so far have turned out to be negative for Nipah, while four other samples are being tested at the Government Medical College Hospital in Manjeri. As many as 12 people have been placed under isolation.

The area within a three-kilometres radius of the patient's house has been declared a containment zone. The District Collector and the District Police Chief are leading the surveillance in this area.

Yet to be traced

As Nipah spreads mostly when the patient is in a critical condition, surveillance is focussed on people who met the patient after July 1. A person identified to have had close contact with the patient at a private clinic in Mannarkkad, is yet to be traced.

The Health Department will revisit cases of death due to brain hemorrhage and similar ailments during the past month with the help of private hospitals and the Indian Medical Association.

As field surveillance has been strengthened in Palakkad, efforts have been made to ensure social and mental support to those in quarantine. Animal deaths in and around houses are also monitored while efforts are being made to test the samples from bats under the custody of the Department of Animal Welfare.

Ms. George came down heavily on those spreading false information and making unfounded statements. Nipah has been reported in Palakkad for the first time.

A.P. govt. approves Amaravati Quantum Valley Declaration

The AQVD reflects the State's aspiration to transform Amaravati into a globally competitive centre for quantum science and technology

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

New vistas: Bhaskar Katamneni, Secretary (ITE&C), speaking at the workshop on 'Amaravati Quantum Valley' last month. K.V.S. GIRI

The Andhra Pradesh government on Monday approved the Amaravati Quantum Valley Declaration (AQVD), setting the stage for it to serve as a framework for the State's efforts in advancing quantum technologies and nurturing a vibrant innovation ecosystem.

Bhaskar Katamneni, Secretary (IT, Electronics and Communications), stated in a Government Order that the government organised the Amaravati Quantum Valley Workshop on June 30 as a landmark initiative aimed at catalysing collaboration across sectors.

As a key outcome of the deliberations held during the event, the stakeholders brought out the AQVD as a forward-looking document that encapsulates shared commitments, long-term vision and strategic priorities for quantum research, innovation, talent development, infrastructure creation and international engagement. The AQVD reflects the aspiration to transform Amaravati into a globally competitive centre for quantum science and technology. It contains six joint commitments of the government of Andhra Pradesh and IBM, TCS and L&T, which are partnering to develop the Amaravati Quantum Valley.

Woman from Shivamogga district dies in ritual held to drive away evil forces

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

A woman died after she was allegedly beaten with a cane as part of a ritual believed to drive away evil spirits at Jambarghatta near Holehonnur in Bhadravati taluk on Monday. Geetha, 55, a resident of Jambarghatta, was allegedly beaten by Asha, who was believed to practice exorcism. Asha, 45, assaulted Geetha for hours from 9.30 p.m on Sunday, and Geetha succumbed by 1.30 a.m. on Monday.

Superintendent of Police G.K. Mithun Kumar said the Holehonnur police registered the case. "Believing that Geetha had been possessed by evil forces, her son took her to Asha, who beat her up for hours and ended up killing her. We have arrested Asha, her husband Santhosh, and Geetha's son Sanju", he said. "The incident is shocking. If there are any health issues, people should consult doctors," he said.

Suresh Gopi questioned over *Pooram* 'disruption'

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala Police confirmed on Monday that Crime Branch (CB) investigators had questioned Union Minister Suresh Gopi as part of a government-ordered inquiry into the alleged disruption of the Thrissur *Pooram* in 2024. However, CB officials averred that the agency preferred to keep the time or place where they questioned Mr. Gopi confidential for now, given the politically sensitive nature of the investigation.

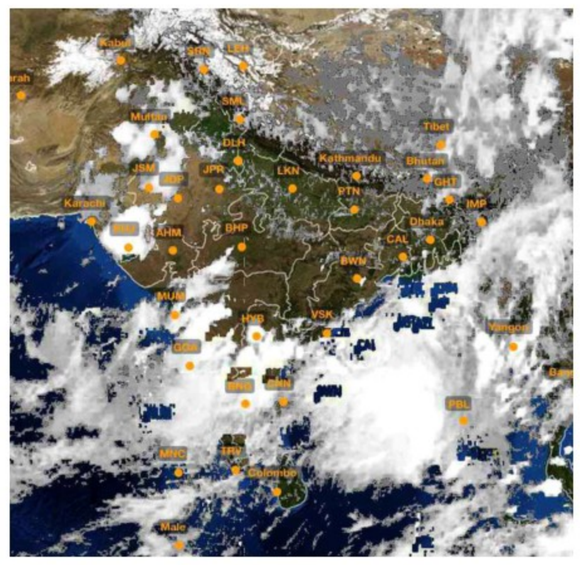
The *Pooram* controversy took on political overtones as it dominated the campaign narrative in the run-up to the 2024 Lok Sabha election. Mr. Gopi's opponents in the election, Communist Party of India (CPI) leader V.S. Sunilkumar and Congress canidate K. Muraleedharan, accused the State police of allowing the BJP candidate to gain political mileage by emerging as a champion of Pooram lovers.

The alleged disarray in the conduct of the festival prompted Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan to order a three-tier investigation last year. Subsequently, the CB formed a special investigation team (SIT) to investigate the cognisable offences detailed in the preliminary police inquiry report about the festival "disruption."

The SIT will likely submit its report to Additional Director-General of Police, Crime Branch, H. Venkatesh.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram, Tripura, West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka and Kerala

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	3	29.5	25.8	Kozhikode	49	28.2	23.6
Ahmedabad	57	32.8	24.8	Kurnool	—	34.1	25.2
Aizawl	21	31.8	21.3	Lucknow	—	37.4	28.9
Allahabad	—	36.3	28.0	Madurai	—	39.4	27.7
Bengaluru	0.6	28.6	20.6	Mangaluru	10.5	28.9	26.1
Bhopal	13	27.4	21.2	Mumbai	13	30.4	25.8
Bhubaneswar	0.2	30.2	24.6	Mysuru	—	29.2	21.0
Chandigarh	10	35.1	26.0	New Delhi	12	35.0	22.9
Chennai	—	39.0	29.8	Patna	—	35.9	28.8
Coimbatore	—	31.8	22.6	Port Blair	2	30.6	27.4
Dehradun	—	32.4	24.6	Puducherry	—	36.4	27.5
Gangtok	1	23.8	18.3	Pune	8	29.7	23.7
Goa	24	31.2	25.0	Raipur	68	25.2	23.7
Guwahati	—	34.6	26.9	Ranchi	8	26.0	22.6
Hubballi	—	27.0	22.0	Shillong	—	25.8	18.4
Hyderabad	—	31.0	23.9	Shimla	2	28.2	20.2
Imphal	0.8	27.6	23.4	Srinagar	0.5	34.9	23.5
Jaipur	2	34.0	24.1	Thiruvananthapuram	11	32.3	24.8
Kochi	23	30.0	24.4	Tiruchi	—	36.5	27.4
Kohima	3	24.3	19.0	Vijayawada	—	35.4	29.0
Kolkata	3	28.4	26.2	Visakhapatnam	0.1	33.2	26.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO 2	NO 2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.17	..24	..1	10	...162	
Bengaluru	...8	..12	36	32	...101	
Chennai	...5	6	28	28	98	
Delhi	...9	..40	32	95	...106	
Hyderabad	.10	..14	41	79	76	
Kolkata	...3	..48	25	44	42	
Lucknow	...7	..39	48	37	92	
Mumbai	.89	..16	45	53	.....—	
Pune	..—	..57	38	30	65	
Visakhapatnam	.13	..74	19	52	...103	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Nandesari, Gujarat recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 234 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 10

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No: COMML/MYS/06/2025
Dated : 30-06-2025
The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works.

Description in brief : Tender invited for selection of halt agent at Konagavalli halt station situated between Birur & Talguppa Section over Mysuru Division for a period of five years.

Last date for submission of tender:
Upto 15:00 Hrs on 12-08-2025
For details log on: www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
PUB/272/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Mysuru**
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. El_Work
Dated : 26-06-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Replacement of Panel Interlocking with Electronic Interlocking System with Outdoor Signalling and Telecom arrangements at Dodbele, Hirehalli and Golhalli Stations between Yesvantpur - Tumakuru section of Bengaluru Division.	Rs. 22,29,13,773.49

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 15:00 Hrs on 25-07-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/ Construction/Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/273/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

IN THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-2, AT BANGALORE
O.A. No. 121 of 2025
M/s. CANARA BANK
SSIT, TUMKUR BR, KUNIGAL Rd, MARALURU TUMKUR DT.-572105.
Rep. by its Chief Manager **V/s. ....APPLICANT**
Smt BHAGYAMMA G.
....DEFENDANT
SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANT ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF DRT (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993
Smt BHAGYAMMA G.
Aged about 43 Years, W/o. Late Manjunath,, **Proprietrix : M/s. BALAJI CREATION, @** Azad Building, Gubbi Gate, Old Check Post, Near Hanuman Temple, Tumkur-572101.

WHEREAS the above named Applicant has instituted an application U/S 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks & Financial Institutions Act, 1993, against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 27,32,718/=** alongwith court costs, together with current & future interest and other reliefs from the date of application till date of recovery. You are hereby required to **show cause within 30 days of the service of the summons or on 8th day of October 2025 at 10:30 a.m.** either in person or duly instructed pleader as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted. Take Notice that, in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this the 1st day of July 2025 at Bangalore.

BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL
Sd/- (REGISTRAR)
Debts Recovery Tribunal-2 for Karnataka
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bangalore-560 001.

THE HINDU IN SCHOOL PRESENTS SCHOOL BUZZ
A Newspaper exclusively curated for School Students

INVESTITURE CEREMONY

Delhi Public School Bangalore North Cambridge inducted their new student council with a ceremonial march-past. The council includes leaders for sports, discipline, and a new Climate Action club aligned with the BBMP's 'Green Bengaluru' initiative. Junior council heads delivered inspiring speeches, concluding the event on a spirited note that reflected commitment and youthful leadership.

INTER-SCHOOL LITERARY COMPETITIONS

Ryan International School, Kundalahalli hosted the Rev Fr George Hess Memorial Inter-School Literary Competitions for Zone 4, under the Association of Schools for the Indian School Certificate. The event saw participation from schools across Bengaluru, with 250 students competing in debate, creative writing, quiz, and other events across categories. Principal Ms. Vidya Guruprasad welcomed the participants and encouraged them to pursue literary interests. She emphasised the role of healthy competition in building character and confidence among students, creating a vibrant platform for showcasing talent, communication skills, and a spirit of collaboration among young learners.

REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT

Sri Krishna International School proudly announced that Shravanth G. R., a Grade X ICSE student, secured a Gold Medal in the Under-17 category at the CISCE Games & Sports, affiliated with the School Games Federation of India. Competing against 38 top schools, he emerged First, displaying exceptional talent and sportsmanship. The Chairman, Principal, and staff congratulated Shravanth and wished him continued success. His achievement reflects both his dedication and the school's commitment to nurturing excellence. Sri Krishna International School continues to uphold their strong tradition of academic distinction and sporting accomplishments.

For Subscription related queries, please contact Raghavendra Desai:
Handphone:+91 9986196254 | Email: desai.rnb@thehindu.co.in

BUSINESS CONNECT — A Business Initiative

Canara Bank Holds Special Lok Adalat for NPA Borrowers

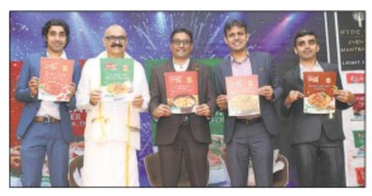
Recently Canara Bank, Circle Office, M.G. Road, Bengaluru, organized a Special Lok Adalat to address and resolve Non-Performing Asset (NPA) accounts under the jurisdiction of Debts Recovery Tribunal (DRT) - I & II. The Lok Adalat was inaugurated by Sri Imtiaz Ali, Presiding Officer, DRT-I, Bengaluru. In his address, he appreciated the Bank's initiative and its proactive approach in settling NPA cases amicably. During this special initiative, NPA accounts were successfully resolved. Sri Mahesh Pai, CGM and Circle Head, stated that Canara Bank remains committed to addressing stressed accounts effectively and this Lok Adalat is a part of the Bank's ongoing efforts to reduce the NPA burden through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. The event was also attended by Sri Srinivas, Registrar, DRT, Sri Ranjan Kumar, Head of the Canara Bank ARM Branch, Gurinder Pal Singh, DM Circle Office and several involved in the recovery process.

Featherlite Unveils New Experience Centre in Ghaziabad, NCR showcasing its Office and Education Furniture range

Featherlite, a pioneering name in workspace furniture solutions, proudly announces the grand opening of its exclusive experience centre dedicated to showcasing the latest designs and trends in workspace design. The showroom was inaugurated by Mr. Abhimanyu Singh Rajvi, grandson of former VP, the late Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat; Mr. Virendra Pratap Singh, Proprietor of Vaivashvaan Sales Corporation; Mr. Kiran Chellaram, Associate Director of the Featherlite Group; and Mr. Gyanendra Singh Parihar, Business Head - Dealer Management at the Featherlite Group. The Bangalore headquartered Featherlite, a 60-year-old Indian company which has been a leading provider of innovative workspace furniture solutions for offices has now expanded into educational furniture for colleges and universities. Featherlite invites all design professionals, facility heads, business owners, government officials, and curious customers to explore the Ghaziabad Experience Centre and immerse themselves in a new dimension of workspace design. For further details contact Mr. Virendra Pratap Singh - virendra.delhi@featherliteindia.com Visit www.featherlitefurniture.com.

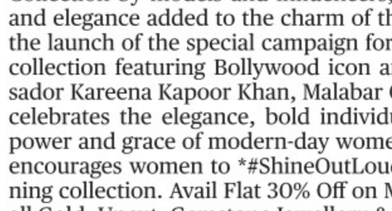
Kwality Foods Launches World's First Dual Sambar Masalas Tailored for Idli and Rice

With a rich legacy of combining traditional flavours with modern innovations, Kwality Foods continues to redefine the processed food segment through thoughtful, consumer-first products. Known for its expansive range of breakfast cereals, instant mixes, and Masalas, the brand is once again creating excitement in Indian kitchens with a unique, heartfelt offering. Kwality Foods proudly announces the appointment of the renowned culinary expert and beloved cooking show icon, Sihi Kahi Chandru, as the Brand Ambassador. Speaking on the launch, Mr. Naresh Pagariya, Managing Director & Mr. Dheeraj Jain, Director spoke about bringing back the traditional flavours. This dual launch further expands Kwality Foods' regional spice and instant mix range, following the successful introduction of beloved products like , Puliyogare Mix, Bisibelebath, Vangi Bath, Sambar Powder, and Rasam Powder. With this innovation, Kwality Foods reaffirms its position as a progressive, 'Made in India' food brand that blends authenticity, taste, health, and convenience–bringing the warmth of home-cooked meals to every plate.



Malabar Gold & Diamonds unveils 'NUWA by Mine Diamonds', Rolls Out Campaign with Bollywood Icon Kareena Kapoor Khan

Malabar Gold & Diamonds the Responsible Jeweller and one of the world's largest and most trusted gold and diamond jewellery retailers, has launched its latest exquisite natural diamond jewellery collection 'NUWA by Mine Diamonds' @ Forum South Bengaluru Mall. The exquisitely curated event garnered remarkable attention and an enthusiastic response from our customers. The highlight of the evening was a stunning showcase of the Nuwa Collection by models and influencers, whose presence and elegance added to the charm of the occasion. With the launch of the special campaign for the latest NUWA collection featuring Bollywood icon and brand ambassador Kareena Kapoor Khan, Malabar Gold & Diamonds celebrates the elegance, bold individuality, versatility, power and grace of modern-day women. The campaign encourages women to *#ShineOutLoud* with this stunning collection. Avail Flat 30% Off on Making charges of all Gold, Uncut, Gemstone Jewellery & Upto to 30% OFF on Diamond Value, Offer valid till 27th July 2025.



State Bank of India Donates Rain Coats to Police Personnel

In commemoration of Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of Bank's foundation day, State Bank of India recently made a contribution to Cubbon Park Traffic Police Station, Bengaluru, by donating 200 Raincoats for distribution to the police personnel managing the traffic. This initiative is part of the Eank's Corporate Social Responsibility efforts to inctease the effectiveness during the rainy season at Cubbon Park surrounding areas. Smt. Joohi Smita Sinha, CGM, Bengaluru Circle, handed over the Rain Coats to the Traffic Police Authorities in the presence of Inspector of Police. The ceremony was attended by Inspector of Police and other dignitaries. The Police authorities expressed their gratitude to State Bank of India for its support on this occasion.

Keep it simple

The ECI's conflicting signals endanger Bihar's voter registration process

The Election Commission of India's (ECI) Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of Electoral Rolls in Bihar, while touted as a smooth process with significant form submissions, is riddled with contradictions and poses a serious threat to voter enfranchisement. Despite claims of progress, with over 11% of the estimated electorate submitting forms, conflicting statements from the ECI highlight deep-seated issues. Initially, the CEO, Bihar, through advertisements, suggested a lenient approach towards electors who did not have the stipulated 11 documents. They were told that they could submit enumeration forms to booth-level officers and provide documents later, or even get verified without mandatory documents, with verification through local investigations by Electoral Registration Officers. However, the CEC clarified that earlier orders mandating document submission by July 25, 2025, stand, with a claims and objections period from August 1 to September 1 for those who fail to comply. This shift in stance and reliance on local-level investigations for verification present inherent problems. Leaving verification to the discretion of local electoral officers increases the possibility of misuse and bias. Such an ad hoc approach risks wrongful inclusions or exclusions, undermining the integrity of the electoral roll.

Instead, the ECI should adopt a more pragmatic and robust approach by accepting more universally available identity documents such as Aadhaar, ration cards, and MGNREGA job cards. The ubiquity of Aadhaar, and its mandatory requirement for numerous government services, makes it an ideal proof of identity. Similarly, ration cards and MGNREGA job cards are widely held, particularly among agrarian populations, as they are central to India's welfare initiatives. Bihar's historical challenges in birth registration, school enrolment, and broader documentation mean that a significant number of genuine electors may lack any of the 11 indicative documents. The onus is on the state and its institutions, including the ECI, to facilitate their participation. The current rigid documentary requirements place an undue burden on voters, especially the marginalised and underprivileged, who already face significant hurdles in engaging with bureaucracy, and risks widespread disenfranchisement. The current Bihar exercise seems to be treating every voter as a potential non-citizen unless proven otherwise. To uphold the principle of universal adult franchise and prevent large-scale exclusion, the ECI must urgently reconsider its SIR even as the Supreme Court is due to hear petitions challenging this exercise. The ECI should immediately broaden the acceptable forms of identification, ensuring that all eligible citizens have the opportunity to exercise their constitutional right to vote.

Batting for prevention

A One Health programme is essential to prevent zoonotic spillover

With two cases of Nipah virus detected in Kerala – including one fatality owing to the infection – the attention is rightfully, once again, on a preventable infectious disease that could leave havoc in its trail. An adolescent girl from Malappuram succumbed to the virus on July 1, and a 38-year-old woman from Palakkad is battling for life in the hospital. In the big picture, as many as 425 people who are in the contact lists of the two Nipah-infected persons in three districts in Kerala have been identified and are under surveillance. Of these, 228 are from Malappuram district, where Patient Zero was identified this time, 110 in Palakkad and 87 in Kozhikode. In Palakkad, one contact is being treated in isolation, while 12 people are currently undergoing treatment in Malappuram – five of them are in the intensive care unit. One of them tested negative for the infection, and the results for the others are awaited. Over 140 of those on the contact list are said to be health workers. While the health machinery in Kerala is engaged in tracing the original source of the infection, it is also tasked, particularly in the three districts of Malappuram, Palakkad and Kozhikode, to trace contacts, isolate them to prevent further spread, contain infection and treat all those who show symptoms. India has recorded several outbreaks of the virus since 2001, a year when 45 of the 66 people infected died in West Bengal. In 2018, it surged in Kerala, with 17 of the 19 cases with laboratory-confirmed Nipah infection dying without responding to treatment. Kerala continues to report outbreaks regularly since then.

What renders even a single case of significant concern to get the entire health-care machinery in a tizzy? Nipah is a transmissible viral infection with a high mortality rate, ranging between 40% and 75%, which implies that if the infection spreads, then, a number of people are likely to die. Future research might add an effective tool to the armamentarium to effectively treat Nipah infections without mortality, but as of now, the course of action is vested only in prevention and awareness generation. Nipah is transmitted by fruit bats which are the natural reservoirs of the virus. It is suspected that consuming contaminated fruits, bitten or licked by bats, may play a role in spreading the virus. It is also equally important to cast a watchful eye on climate change-related factors, particularly anthropogenic activity that is destroying natural habitats, and initiate a robust One Health programme that will weigh not just Nipah but also other pathogens that are capable of zoonotic spillover, transitioning from animals to humans and causing great harm.

Fostering a commitment to stop maternal deaths

Dr. K.R. Antony

is a Public Health Consultant in Kochi, Kerala, who drafted the first Safe Motherhood module for the Ministry of Health on behalf of UNICEF

In childbirth in India, why should 93 women lose their life while one lakh women have a safe delivery? For the time period 2019-21, the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) estimate for India was 93, in other words, the proportion of maternal deaths per 1,00,000 live births, reported under the Sample Registration System (SRS). "Maternal death is the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management, but not from accidental or incidental causes". But the MMR in India has declined over the years – it was 103 in 2017-19, then 97 in 2018-20 and now 93 in 2019-21.

To understand the maternal mortality situation better, States have been categorised into three: "Empowered Action Group" (EAG) States that comprise Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Assam; "Southern" States which include Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu; and "Other" States that cover the remaining States/Union Territories.

In the group of "Southern" States, Kerala has the lowest MMR (20) and Karnataka the highest (63). The rest of the data is Andhra Pradesh (46) Telangana (45) and Tamil Nadu (49). In the EAG States, Assam has a very high MMR (167); the rest of the data is Jharkhand (51), and Madhya Pradesh (175). Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand are in the 100-151 range. In the category of "Other" States. Maharashtra is 38 and Gujarat 53; the rest of the data is Punjab 98, Haryana 106 and West Bengal 109.

We need to have a differential approach in strategy to reduce maternal deaths in the different clusters of States. In this, addressing three issues is fundamental. There are "three delays" that lead to a mother dying, according to Deborah Maine of Columbia University – I had incorporated this in the training module on 'Safe Motherhood in India' in 1992.

Key factors that endanger a life

The first delay is in recognising impending danger and making a decision to rush and seek expert care. The husband and other family members often experience inertia, thinking that all deliveries are a natural process and so the mother-to-be can wait. Or they may not have enough money or other issues at the family level that prevent them from going to a hospital. If the educational level of family members and their financial position are weak, delaying decision making is detrimental. But empowered, neighbourhood mothers and women's self-help-groups have resulted in a remarkable change; no longer is a mother-to-be neglected by lethargic family members. Ever since Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) began networking with Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANM) since 2005 (when the National Rural Health Mission (NHRM) was launched), institutional over home deliveries have become the better option. The financial incentives for the mother and ASHA were the turning point.

The Maternal Mortality Ratio for India is on the decline, but there are States that need to focus on basic and systemic issues

The second delay is in transportation. From remote rural hamlets and forest settlements or faraway islands it may take many hours, or an overnight journey for a mother-to-be to reach a health facility with a skilled birth attendant (midwife/staff nurse) or a doctor or an obstetrician. Many women die on the way. However, the 108 ambulance system and other Emergency transport mechanisms under the National Health Mission has made a difference.

Other problems

The third delay, an unpardonable one, is in initiating specialised care at the health facility. The excuses are plenty and difficult to justify – a delay in attending to a woman in the emergency room; a delay in reaching the obstetrician; a delay in getting a blood donor, in laboratory support, the operation theatre not being ready, an anaesthetist not being available is a list that can go on. The concept of the operationalisation of a 'minimum four FRUs [first referral units] per district of two million population, is crucial. The "first level referral unit" with specialists such as an obstetrician, anaesthetist, paediatrician, blood bank and operation theatre was aimed at preventing maternal death at the doorstep of a hospital.

Unfortunately, this has not worked out as expected since 1992. There are problems such as 66% vacancies of specialists in 5,491 community health centres out of which 2,856 are supposed to be FRUs in 714 districts. The lack of blood banks or blood storage units in these designated FRUs was another reason for many mothers not receiving adequate blood transfusion within two hours of the onset of massive bleeding after delivery, leading to fatalities.

The biggest killer is bleeding after delivery. This could be due to inadequate and timely contraction of an overstretched uterus with a baby of three-kilogram weight floating in amniotic fluids. When the placenta is separated after delivery, the raw opened surfaces of the uterine wall will bleed profusely unless it immediately contracts. From a total reserve of five litres of blood, more than half is lost in such a short duration, resulting in the mother going into shock and death. If there is underlying anaemia, which has not been treated with iron folic acid supplements in pregnancy, it will also result in tragedy. Thus, there is a need for immediate blood transfusion and emergency surgical care.

The next emergency is obstructed labour where the contracted bony pelvis of an already stunted young mother (who is also malnourished and has low body mass index) does not allow the normally grown baby to emerge. Prolonged labour can lead to foetal distress and a lethal rupture of the uterus. This can be avoided by a Caesarean section. Thus, there is a need for a well-equipped operation theatre and obstetrician/ surgeon and an anaesthetist on call.

The third medical cause is hypertensive disorders of pregnancy that are not recognised and treated on time. They can result in a dire emergency with convulsions and coma and very little time to medically control high blood pressure. There are some home deliveries by untrained birth attendants which lead to trauma and puerperal infection, resulting in sepsis and death. Antibiotics could have saved their lives, but the patient is admitted to hospital late. A failure of contraceptive devices, resulting in unwanted pregnancies and crude abortion techniques by quacks, also leads to sepsis and death. In EAG States, associated illnesses such as malaria, chronic urinary tract infections and tuberculosis are also high risk factors.

The focus areas for States

The prescription for averting maternal deaths is early registration and routine antenatal care and ensuring institutional delivery. Many of these systemic deficiencies will be highlighted in the mandatory reporting and audit of all maternal deaths under the NHM. While the EAG States have to focus on the implementation of basic tasks, the southern States group and probably Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Gujarat need to fine tune the quality of their emergency and basic obstetric care.

The Kerala model of a Confidential Review of Maternal deaths, initiated by Dr. V.P. Paily, has some analytical leads on how Kerala can further reduce its already low MMR of 20. It is a model other southern States can emulate. The use of uterine artery clamps on the lower segment, application of suction canula to overcome atonicity of the uterus, and a sharp lookout for and energetic management of amniotic fluid embolism, diffused intravascular coagulation, hepatic failure secondary to fatty liver cirrhosis are strategies taught to obstetricians, which even developed countries have yet to practise routinely. They even address antenatal depression and post-partum psychosis as there were a few cases of pregnant mothers ending their life.

Finally, if there is a commitment and a will to stop preventable maternal deaths there is no limit to the varieties of proactive interventions.

The writer acknowledges inputs on the Confidential Review of Maternal Deaths in Kerala from Dr. Smithy Sanel, a Spokesperson of the Kerala Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Rising seas, shifting lives and a test of democratic values

Bhoomika Choudhury

is an international lawyer and researcher specialising in business and human rights, corporate accountability, and labour rights

The intensifying impacts of climate change are reshaping India's coastline resulting in an environmental phenomenon and also profound social and economic rupture. Across the eastern and western seaboards, communities that are historically dependent on agriculture, fishing, and coastal ecosystems are being displaced by rising seas, saltwater intrusion, and the cumulative effects of unregulated development. This has triggered migration, pushing displaced populations into precarious urban labour markets without legal protection or adequate state support.

In Odisha, once thriving coastal settlements such as Satabhaya have been swallowed by the sea, forcing villagers to relocate to government resettlement colonies that often fail to provide sustainable livelihoods. In Karnataka's Honnavar taluk, traditional fishing communities face dispossession as ports, tourism projects, and mangrove destruction accelerate coastal degradation. Similar patterns are unfolding in Tamil Nadu's Nagapattinam, Gujarat's Kutch region, and the flood-prone lowlands of Kerala.

Projects and environmental degradation

Industrial and infrastructural expansion along coastal zones – from port development under the Sagarmala programme to energy projects and commercial aquaculture – have compounded ecological degradation. Mangrove forests, sand dunes and wetlands that historically buffered coastal communities have been systematically cleared.

Environmental clearances for many projects have overlooked cumulative climate risks, leading to a development model that intensifies ecological and social vulnerabilities. The displaced populations are increasingly getting absorbed into the informal economy as construction workers, brick kiln labourers and domestic workers in urban centres such as Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Hyderabad and Mumbai.

These migration patterns often result in systemic labour exploitation, which include debt bondage (displaced families take wage advances to survive, tying them into exploitative labour conditions); lack of legal protections (informal workers have little or no access to rights under India's labour laws, such as the Building and Other Construction Workers' (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996) and gendered exploitation (displaced women entering domestic work face heightened risks of abuse, underpayment, and trafficking).

Climate change is affecting India's coastal communities with a deep social and economic impact

Legal lacunae on climate displacement

The absence of a coherent legal framework on climate-induced migration exacerbates this crisis. While Article 21 of the Constitution guarantees the right to life and dignity, there is no specific legislation that addresses the rights of those displaced by slow-onset climate disasters. Existing frameworks such as the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notifications, including the diluted CRZ 2019, are limited either to disaster response or environmental conservation, without adequately factoring in the socio-economic dimensions of displacement.

The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) and State Action Plans recognise vulnerability, but lack targeted strategies for the rehabilitation of displaced populations or integration into labour markets.

The CRZ Notification, 2019, intended to streamline clearances and promote sustainable coastal management, has often been critiqued for prioritising tourism and industrial development over the rights of coastal communities. Across States, the dilution of zoning regulations has led to a surge in commercial projects in fragile coastal belts, displacing traditional fishing communities without their informed consent – a principle enshrined in national law and international environmental standards. Even India's landmark Labour Codes are silent on extending specific protections to climate migrants.

Environmental justice jurisprudence from the Supreme Court of India – in *M.C. Mehta vs Union of India* (1987) and *Indian Council for Enviro-Legal Action vs Union of India* (1996) – has recognised the intrinsic link between the environment and fundamental human rights. Yet, the translation of these principles into robust, community-centric legal frameworks on climate displacement remains lacking.

The story of displacement is also the story of resilience. Coastal communities, particularly fisherfolk unions and indigenous groups, have resisted ecologically destructive projects with remarkable tenacity. The protests against the Adani ports expansion at Ennore Creek, Tamil Nadu, the Pattuvam Mangrove Protection Movement in Kerala, and the Save Satabhaya campaign in Odisha underscore how grass-roots mobilisations have challenged mainstream development narratives.

However, environmental defenders face intimidation, surveillance and criminalisation which are antithetical to India's constitutional commitment to protect the rights to protest and association. New challenges also emerge as climate change is weaponised to justify "managed retreat" without participatory planning or safeguards for the displaced.

Towards a rights-based framework

Recognition of climate migrants within national migration and urban planning policies is essential. There is a need for a rights-based approach that guarantees decent work, housing, education and health care. Labour codes must be revised to explicitly extend protections to climate migrants, especially in sectors such as construction and domestic work where informality is rampant. Similarly, coastal zone management must be revisited to prioritise ecological sustainability and community rights over commercial interests. India's commitment to achieving Sustainable Development Goal Target 8.7 – eliminating forced labour and ensuring decent work for all – is contingent upon addressing the new vulnerabilities created by climate displacement.

If climate change is the defining challenge of our era, responding to climate-induced displacement must be at the core of India's adaptation strategy. Protecting the rights, dignity, and livelihoods of those most impacted is not just an environmental necessity. It is a test of India's democratic and constitutional values.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Plight of the poor

Are we a police state? In Tamil Nadu, the brutality unleashed by the police on Ajith Kumar, who was finished off on mere suspicion of being linked to an incident of some jewels missing, defies all imagination. He was just a poor man working as a security guard in a temple. The poor are undoubtedly worse off in this so-called welfare state. The brutal custodial death evokes a deep poignancy of the rights of the poor in India. One is reminded of Bernard Shaw's quote, "The greatest evils and the worst of crimes is poverty...." One also remembers Somnath Chatterjee, a Marxist and a leading lawyer, saying "there is no respite for the poor in India". It is not enough that the Ministers console the family which has been shattered.

N.G.R. Prasad,
Chennai

Musk vs Trump or more?

Elon Musk has caused more than a ripple in American politics. Yet, one must ask whether his political move is a fight for ideals or personal vendetta. We wait to see whether it will reshape politics or fizzle out as a fleeting tempest.

R.K Jain,
Barwani, Madhya Pradesh

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address and the full name.

The free fall of moral leadership

Ashwani Kumar

Former Law Minister; Senior Advocate, Supreme Court; and author

In an era of global conflicts and democratic decline, the question of political leadership in the democratic world has acquired a heightened significance. Intensified rivalries in several parts of the world represent a failure of leadership. The unconscionable ambivalence of world leaders in standing up for principle over expediency, and their abject surrender to hegemonic power, speaks for itself. The tragedies of Ukraine, Gaza, and the Israel-Iran conflict show the ravages of war caused by the insolence of power, untamed by humanitarian interdicts.

Justice above raw power

Despite the fragile ceasefire brokered by U.S. President Donald Trump from a position of overarching military superiority, the footprints of these hostilities will remain visible symbols of an oppressive exercise of military power that has taken thousands of innocent lives. Those responsible for the catastrophe have clearly forgotten the abiding lesson of history that people carrying a festering wound in their souls find closure only when injustice is avenged. Lasting peace in West Asia will remain hostage to an indelible sense of injustice and moral outrage.

It is, therefore, imperative to foster leadership that values justice above raw power. In the deeply distressing trans border conflicts that have driven the world perilously close to a global war, the moral and intellectual impoverishment of the principal actors has raised concerns about the failure of contemporary democracies to yield inspiring leadership, answerable to the 'injunctions of conscience'. The pretence of a functional rules-based international order helmed by the United Nations Charter stands demolished yet again, reconfirming the impotence of international law in outlawing the use of force in relations between nations. The illegal invasion of Iraq and parts of Ukraine are no more than footnotes of history.

Lessons to learn

But there are lessons to be learned. The world needs leadership, driven by a search for global consensus and subject to the discipline of international law to address the defining challenges of our times, including the settlement of territorial disputes. This is a particularly important reminder for those who claim to lead the democratic world and propound the necessity of a credible international legal order.

Democratic leadership is about walking alone in defence of principle, where necessary. It is about holding on to the truth against all odds and empowering the weak. It is about uniting people in trying times and advancing human dignity by removing disparities. Inspirational leadership is about an unremitting endeavour to create favourable conditions of social and political existence that can optimise the realisation of human potential in an environment of peace and harmony. And as shown in the tortuous process of securing a fragile truce between Israel and Iran, deceit and two-facedness annul leadership.

Leadership does not emerge out of a vacuum. As Karl Marx reminded us famously, 'Men make their own history, but they do not make it as they please... [they do so] under circumstances existing already, given and transmitted from the past.' The French statesman Chateaubriand proclaimed that 'the leader of the nation must be the leader of the times', so that his exertions mirror the aspirations of the people and invest politics with a moral purpose larger than himself. The current global conflicts present an opportunity for democracies to look inwards for correction and to reinforce their appeal.

> India's economic heft, nuclear capabilities, and regional power status should enable it to espouse international morality without compromising its strategic autonomy or without alienating key allies

In defence of justice

Indian democracy, which has survived several vicissitudes and a 'thousand mutinies', has been enriched by the exertions and selflessness of several of its towering leaders. They were led by Mahatma Gandhi, who defined for us the meaning of transformative leadership. The Mahatma's promise of politics, impervious to the trappings of power and rooted instead in the moral imagination of the people yearning for freedom and dignity, enabled him to forge a sustainable non-violent struggle against injustice. He accomplished the 'will of his age', defined it for the people, and personified it.

As a proud inheritor of the Gandhian legacy of morality-driven politics and drawing strength from its civilisational ethos of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbham', India must stand out in defence of justice everywhere. It must flex its moral muscle for shaping a just world order. Its economic heft, nuclear capabilities, and regional power status should enable India to espouse international morality without compromising its strategic autonomy or without alienating key allies.

In these defying times, we must summon our tallest leaders to collectively energise Indian democracy. They must establish the exceptionality of their leadership in the service of national goals and global peace. Our leaders must 'reinforce the tone of modesty', introduce dignity at the centre of political processes, revive the spirit of collegiality, be seen as symbols of hope in times of fracture and fear, and re-purpose their politics beyond the pursuit of raw power.

At this juncture of the nation's history, when domestic and external challenges threaten the social accord and disruptive shifts in the power pendulum are testing the societal equilibrium, we need leadership that is strong and compassionate, resolute but conciliatory, and decisive while striving for democratic consensus on critical issues.

A step away from transparency

There are several pressing concerns about the ECI's new rules

STATE OF PLAY

Krishangi Sinha
Sanjay Kumar

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has introduced some new rules and revisions, including a Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls in Bihar before the Assembly polls. This exercise will then take place across the country.

In Bihar, the SIR exercise, aimed at removing duplicate entries in electoral rolls, started on June 25. It uses the 2003 electoral rolls as the base. The process includes door-to-door verification and new documentation requirements. The ECI aims to publish the final voters' list by September 30.

As part of the process, voters listed in the 2003 electoral rolls – the last time that an intensive revision was done in Bihar – do not have to submit documents unless they are asked. However, those who were not on the rolls in 2003 and new applicants will have to provide proof of date and/or proof of place of birth of self if they were born before July 1, 1987; proof of date and/or proof of place of birth of self and of one parent if they were born between July 1, 1987 and December 2, 2004; and proof of date and/or proof of place of birth of self and both parents if they were born after December 2, 2004.

On the surface, this seems aligned with the ECI's broader goal of cleaning the electoral rolls and eliminating ghost voters from the voters' list and ensuring that only eligible Indian citizens exercise their franchise, which is fundamental to a free and fair democratic process. However, there are several concerns. First, many individuals/families from

poor, Dalit, Muslim, tribal, and migrant communities often lack formal birth certificates. Second, many others will struggle to produce documents for verifying their parents' place of birth, largely due to historical gaps in State documentation.

Third, there may be lack of awareness and clarity around the new requirements. Many voters, especially in rural areas, may not fully understand which documents are needed, how to fill out forms, or where and when to submit them. With limited public outreach, complex paperwork required, and a tight timeline leading up to the final publication of the electoral rolls by September 30, there is a high risk of confusion, errors, and unintentional exclusions, particularly of those already on the margins of the system.

Fourth, the process relies heavily on field-level officials (booth level officers and electoral registration officers), who hold discretionary power. While the framework allows for claims, objections, and appeals, the initial verification and decision-making are in the hands of local officers. This may lead to inconsistencies, delays, or biased judgment, especially in areas with limited oversight.

Fifth, the ECI has neither committed to publishing the list of names being removed from the electoral rolls, nor has it provided a clear, accessible system for applicants to track the status of their submissions. This makes it difficult for citizens, civil society, and the media to monitor the process, identify errors, or challenge wrongful exclusions, raising serious questions about accountability.

The Lokniti-Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) post-poll survey of the National Election Study 2024 revealed a concerning trend. When respondents were asked whether they trust the ECI, 12% said 'not much' and 7% said 'not at all'. In this atmosphere of suspicion, the ECI has now published a circular directing that all photos, videos, CCTV footage, and webcasts from polling stations be deleted within 45 days of the election results, unless an election petition is filed within that period. Earlier, footage and photos were retained for three months to one year, depending on the stage of polling. This new measure not only limits the time to scrutinise the material, but also shuts off avenues for transparency that existed earlier.

While steps such as the EPIC clean up and voter turnout upgrade suggest that the ECI is pushing for efficiency, actions such as deleting polling station footage prematurely, implementing new documentation rules without sufficient public awareness, and failing to disclose names removed from electoral rolls contribute to the prevailing atmosphere of uncertainty and distrust. At a time when public trust in institutions is under great strain, the ECI cannot afford to be so opaque and must take measures to ensure transparency.

Krishangi Sinha is a Researcher with Lokniti-CSDS; Sanjay Kumar is Co-Director of Lokniti, and Professor at CSDS. Views are personal

Women MSMEs still struggle for credit despite schemes

Limited access to formal credit and the widening credit gap continue to prevent women entrepreneurs from achieving their financial goals

DATA POINT

B. Renuka Ramakrishna

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) have become instrumental in shaping India's generating employment, creating revenue, and in global outreach. In 2024, MSMEs contributed nearly 30% to the GDP. The aim is to raise this to 35% in the current year. This vast sector also provides opportunities for many women-led enterprises. The government has implemented several financial schemes specifically designed to promote women's participation.

However, the issues and challenges faced by women-led MSMEs are often inadequately addressed. The problems of limited access to formal credit and the widening credit gap continue to prevent these entrepreneurs from achieving their financial goals. While ensuring adequate credit availability to MSMEs has long been a key policy objective, gaps between banks and beneficiaries often persist at the implementation stage.

Women-owned businesses account for up to 20% of all MSMEs registered in India. This level of female participation remains low despite the handful of schemes aimed at encouraging self-employment and financial independence. What is more striking is that women-led MSMEs contribute only about 10% of the total turnover, while receiving around 11-15% of the total investment in the sector **(Chart 1)**. These numbers highlight the persistent gaps in both financial inclusion and credit accessibility for women in the MSME ecosystem.

According to reports by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), women face significant discrimination in fund disbursement, with a credit gap of around 35% – meaning that over a third of their financial requirements go unmet – compared to a the 20% credit gap faced by men **(Chart 2)**. The credit gap refers to the difference between the amount of credit requested by the borrower and the amount actually received. These inadequate funds are one of the major challenges for women in the MSME sector, affecting about 26% of them, followed closely by the challenge of high competition.

The Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY), launched nearly a decade ago to support individuals seeking self-employment, has also enabled women to open loan accounts and fund their MSMEs. PMMY offers collateral-free loans to MSMEs operating in the non-farm sector. As of 2024, women owned 42,492,281 loan accounts under PMMY out of a total of 66,777,013 accounts, which is approximately 64%. This shows that women form a significant group seeking financial assistance.

However, the sanctioned amount tells a different story. Of the total ₹5,41,012.86 crore allocated for that year's target, only ₹2,25,887.08 crore (about 41%) was directed towards women-led MSMEs. This disparity points to an economic inefficiency in delivering highly liquid, low-cost, and easily accessible loans to the underserved sections of the sector.

These underperforming schemes are pushing women to rely on informal sources of credit, which are often riskier and unreliable. These challenges are not confined to MSMEs alone; they also affect informal micro-enterprises (IMEs) run by women. Informal businesses are typically excluded from formal credit processes due to the lack of legal documentation and collateral. To address this gap, the government launched the Udyam Assist Portal, which helps such IMEs become eligible for priority sector lending by facilitating their formal recognition.

This year, over 1.86 crore IMEs have been registered through the portal. Notably, 70.5% of these are owned by women. This achievement has significantly boosted employment, with women-led IMEs contributing 70.8% to employment generation within this segment **(Chart 3)**.

However, despite being registered, these businesses continue to face challenges in accessing formal credit. Dr. Ashwin Ram, Professor at RV University, said the main reasons for this are lack of awareness and limited access to formal credit. He said, "A majority of first-generation women entrepreneurs, particularly in smaller towns and rural areas, have low financial literacy and are not well informed about various government schemes and their benefits. There is also little support from traditional commercial banks and local government agencies to educate and assist women entrepreneurs in availing financial subsidies."

Women entrepreneurs are also often perceived as risky borrowers, largely because they lack adequate collateral or property ownership. In India, a significant proportion of women run micro and small businesses predominantly in the informal sector, which further discourages them from seeking finance through formal institutions. According to the International Finance Corporation, it takes a man an average of two visits to a bank to get a loan sanctioned, whereas women typically need to make at least four.

Amid these discriminatory barriers, the Reserve Bank of India has cut the repo rate to 5.50%, the lowest since 2022, and reduced the Cash Reserve Ratio by 100 basis points. This policy is aimed at injecting more liquidity into the economy, leaving commercial banks with greater funds to extend as loans to the public. Both banks and women entrepreneurs are in a favourable position, with increased liquidity at their disposal.

The government's schemes have been launched with a strong intent, but their implementation has often fallen short due to administrative inefficiencies.

Gender gap in MSMEs

The data for the charts were taken from Reserve Bank of India, Press Information Bureau, SIDBI, NITI Aayog, Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Ltd. (MUDRA)

Chart 1: The share of women-led MSMEs, share of women employed in MSMEs, share of investment attracted by women-led MSMEs and share of turnover of women-led MSMEs

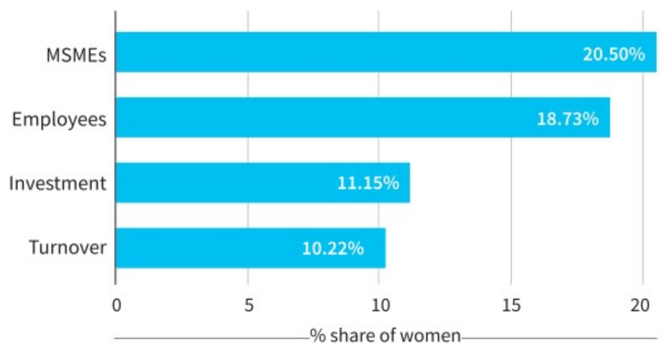


Chart 2: The credit gap across genders. Credit gap refers to the difference between the amount of credit requested by the borrower and the amount actually received

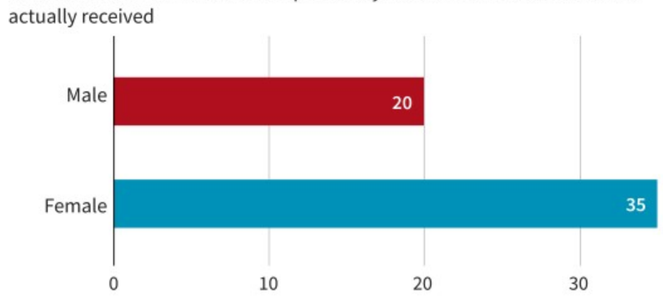
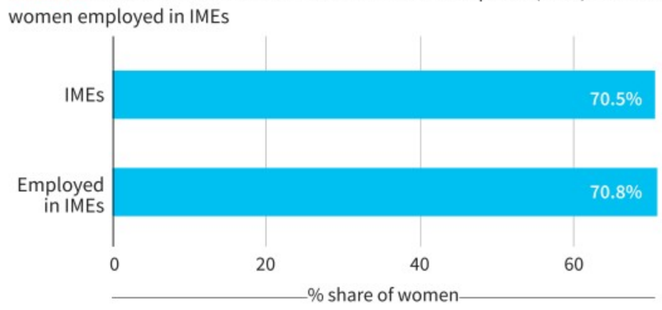


Chart 3: The share of women-led informal micro-enterprises (IMEs) and share of women employed in IMEs



B Renuka Ramakrishna is interning with The Hindu Data Team

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 8, 1975

U.S. and Russia getting ready for space rendezvous

Cape Canaveral, Florida, July 7: Five years ago, it was considered impossible, a dream. But on July 15, American astronauts and Russian cosmonauts are to rocket into orbit to start an historic joint space flight, appropriately labelled a mission of "high-flying detente".

Much symbolism and prestige will be involved on this first international flight of the world's leading spacefaring nations, once keen rivals in space exploration until U.S. astronauts landed on the moon. Neither wants to fail in the global spotlight that will follow every moment.

It won't be just a "handshake in the sky", say the astronauts and cosmonauts, but a mission that hopefully will lead to future co-operative flights in large space stations and perhaps to the planets.

The flight is scheduled to start at 8:20 a.m. (17-50 IST) with the launching of the two cosmonauts in a Soyuz spacecraft from the Soviet Union.

If there are no problems, three Apollo astronauts will ride an Apollo spacecraft away from Cape Canaveral 7.5 hours later.

With the more sophisticated Apollo performing all the critical manoeuvres, the astronauts will pursue the Soyuz through the skies for two days, moving in for a link-up at 12:15 p.m. (22:45 IST) on Thursday July 17, 224 km above West Germany.

Three hours later, both ends of an airlock tunnel connecting the vehicles will be opened and the American Commander, Air Force Brig. Gen. Thomas Stafford, and the Russian Commander, Air Force Col. Alexei Leonov, will shake hands.

It will be a moment of high emotion, not only for its symbolism, but because these two men have become fast friends during two years of training. Both believe that through flights like this, high in space, their two nations can achieve detente on earth.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 8, 1925

The G.I.P. Railway

Bombay, July 8: The G.I.P. Railway are introducing a travelling Cinema Car, the idea being that the car will travel up and down the line, imparting knowledge to the staff, by means of films showing exactly how their work should be done.

From Page One

SC to hear pleas against roll revision on July 10

The petitioners' side urged the Bench to issue notice to the EC and ensure that the poll body explain its "ill-timed and hasty" decision to conduct the exercise in Bihar.

Mr. Sibal said the last date for the submission of the enumeration forms was July 25. The applicant's name would not feature on the draft electoral rolls, to be published on August 1, if the forms were not submitted in time.

'No prior consultation'

Mr. Jha, in his petition, argued that the decision was taken by the poll body without prior consultation with political parties and would be employed to "justify aggressive and opaque revisions of electoral rolls that disproportionately target Muslim, Dalit, and poor migrant communities".

The petitioners contended that the SIR process violated the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and Rule 21A of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960. The petitioners argued that the SIR shifted the onus of being on the voters' list from the state to the citizens.

Appearing for the Association for Democratic Reforms, advocate Prashant Bhushan said the SIR process had "excluded identification documents such as Aadhaar or ration cards which further make marginalised communities and the poor more vulnerable to exclusion from voting... As per estimates, over three crore voters and more particularly from marginalised communities (such as SCs, STs, and migrant workers) could be excluded from voting due to the stringent requirements as mentioned in the SIR order".

The NGO submitted that reports from Bihar show that lakhs of voters from villages and marginalised communities do not possess the documents as required under the SIR notification.

Apps to make Census data available early: RGI

The first phase of Census 2027, Houselisting and Housing Census (HLO), will start from April 2026, followed by the Population Enumeration (PE) phase in February 2027.

For the 2021 Census, 31 questions were notified for the first phase, related to household particulars such as building number; Census house number; predominant material of the roof; floor of the house; name and sex of the head of the household; number of persons residing in the household; main source of drinking water; main source of lighting; access to latrine; main fuel used for cooking; access to radio, TV, laptop, computer and car; main cereal consumed; and mobile number.

On June 16, the RGI notified the process in the Gazette of India.

"Gazette Notification for intent of #Census2027 has been issued on 16th June 2025. All States and UTs have been requested to republish the notification of intent in their State Gazette and also appoint Nodal Officer for Census," RGI said.

"The Census will have focused and need-based training in each phase. There will be a three-tier training structure: National Trainer, Master Trainer and Field Trainer. Field Trainers will impart training to approx. 34 lakh Enumerators and Supervisors," it further said.

It added, "For #Census2027, administrative boundaries across India to be frozen on 1st January, 2026. States & UTs have been requested not to make changes in administrative boundaries between 1st January, 2026 to 31st March, 2027."

Myanmar ethnic crisis drives 4,000 to Mizoram

A bridge connects Myanmar and India at the border village of Zokhawthar, Champhai district, in Mizoram. FILE PHOTO

Security officials guarding the border said the fight was between the Chin National Defence Force (CNDF) and the Chinland Defence Force-Hualngoram (CDF-H) for the control of areas deemed strategic for border trade with India. The two groups are part of the People's Defence Force that is leading a resistance movement against Myanmar's military junta, which captured power through a coup in 2021. After two days of exchanging fire, the CNDF was learnt to have captured all eight camps of the CDF-H in the area.

More than 30,000 refugees from Myanmar and Bangladesh have been living in Mizorams since before the arrival of the 4,000 Chin people. About 2,000 Kuki-Chin refugees from Bangladesh arrived two years ago following clashes between their community-based armed ethnic group and Bangladeshi security forces.

Apart from the refugees, more than 5,000 Kuki-Zo people displaced by the ethnic violence in adjoining Manipur have also been taking shelter in Mizoram since 2023.

India will give new form to BRICS in 2026: Modi

India prioritised issues of Global South during leadership of G-20, and will take BRICS forward in the spirit of humanity first, says PM as New Delhi prepares to take over chairmanship of forum

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

United for a cause: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with BRICS members, partners and outreach invitee countries during a group picture at the BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro on Monday. ANI

India will attempt to give a "new form" to BRICS next year, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his intervention at the grouping's summit in Rio De Janeiro on Monday, as the Indian side prepared to take over its leadership from current president Brazil.

"Under India's BRICS presidency, we will work to define BRICS in a new form. BRICS will mean Building Resilience and Innovation for Cooperation and Sustainability. Just as, during our G-20 chairmanship, we gave priority to the issues of the Global South in the agenda, similarly during our chairmanship of BRICS, we will take this forum forward in the spirit of people-centricity and humanity first," said Mr. Modi speaking at the session on "Environment, COP-30 and Global Health".

Mr. Modi dealt with a number of topics, including the post-pandemic recovery of the global economy, and called for global cooperation in combating common threats. "The COVID pandemic taught us that viruses do not come taking visas, and solutions, too are not chosen by looking at passports. The solution to common challenges is possible only through joint efforts," he said.

Earlier, talking at a segment of the BRICS summit, Mr. Modi shared the Indian position on Artificial Intelligence and said, "We believe that AI governance, addressing concerns and encouraging innovation should both receive equal priority." Mr. Modi also held a number of bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the BRICS summit.

Among those who met Mr. Modi were President Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez of Cuba, Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim of Malaysia, President Yamandu Orsi of Uruguay and President of Bolivia Luis Alberto Arce Catacora. "We talked about the need for improving and diversifying trade linkages on a priority basis. We discussed how we can collaborate in sectors such as digital technology, critical minerals, healthcare, space and more. Also conveyed my best wishes on the historic occasion of Bolivia's 200 years of Independence," Mr. Modi said.

Mr. Modi's participation in the closing day of the 17th BRICS summit will be followed by a state visit to Brazil that is scheduled to begin on Tuesday at the Alvorado Palace. During his stay in Brasilia, Mr. Modi will hold restricted and delegation-level talks and attend a lunch hosted by President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

China protests PM's greetings to Dalai Lama on birthday

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Mao Ning

The Chinese government has protested Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday greetings for Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama and the presence of Ministers at his 90th birthday celebrations in Dharamshala, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) said on Monday.

The statement was made in response to a question at the daily press briefing, asking for a response to Mr. Modi's message on X, where he had praised the Dalai Lama, a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, as an "enduring symbol of love, compassion, patience and moral discipline", as part of his birthday wishes.

While the Indian Ministry of External Affairs did not confirm receiving Beijing's protest, government sources pointed out that Indian Prime Ministers have a long-standing practice of wishing the Dalai Lama on his birthday, including on occasion over telephone calls.

"India needs to be fully cognisant of the sensitivity of issues related to Xizang, see clearly the anti-China and separatist nature of the 14th Dalai Lama, honour the commitments India has made to China on issues related to Xizang, act prudently, and stop using those issues to interfere in China's internal affairs," the Chinese MFA's spokesperson Mao Ning told presspersons, using the Chinese term 'Xizang' for Tibet or the Tibet Autonomous Region, which India uses.

"China has protested to India regarding its actions," Ms. Mao added, without sharing details on how the protest was delivered.

This is the second time in the last few days that China has objected to official greetings for the Dalai Lama, whose week-long birthday celebrations were marked in Dharamshala.

Over 30 cr. workers, farmers will join strike against govt.'s policies, say trade unions

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Trade union members raise slogans in support of their strike on July 9, in Kolkata.

Thirty crore to 40 crore workers and farmers will participate in the general strike on Wednesday, claimed leaders of 10 Central trade unions here on Monday while addressing a joint press conference. The leaders said preparations for the strike were complete and workers had supported the 17-point charter of demands of the strike.

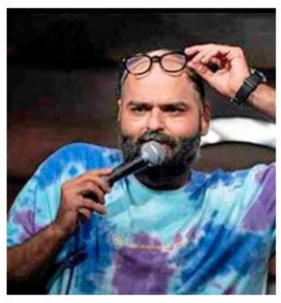
"The economic policies are resulting in more unemployment, rising prices of essential commodities, depression in wages, cuts in social sector spending in education, health, basic civic amenities, all this leading to more inequalities and miseries for the poor, lower income group and even middle classes. The government has abandoned the welfare state status of our country and is working in the interest of foreign and Indian corporates and it is so evident from its policies being pursued vigorously," the leaders said.

In a statement, they said the trade unions had been fighting against the privatisation of public sector enterprises and public services, the policies of outsourcing, contractualisation and casualisation of workforce, against the anti-workers, pro-employer four labour codes meant to suppress and cripple the trade union movement, increase in working hours, to snatch their right to collective bargaining, right to strike, decriminalisation of violation of labour laws by employers, while criminalising the activities of trade unions. "The government is making false claims on employment and provisions of social security. The existing social security schemes are being weakened and attempts to bring private players into it are pushed," they said.

They added that unions in the coal and minerals sectors, steel, banking and insurance sectors, power, petroleum and telecom industries, and the transport sector have given notice for a strike.

Maharashtra House panel moves against Kamra and Andhare

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit
MUMBAI



Kunal Kamra

The Privileges Committee of the Maharashtra Legislative Council has decided to issue a show-cause notice to stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra and Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sushama Andhare. The 11-member committee has approved the proposal with a full majority, Prasad Lad, BJP MLC and the chairperson of the committee, told *The Hindu* on Monday.

"The proposal has been accepted by everyone. It has now gone for legal opinion. Soon thereafter, the show-cause notice will be sent to both of them by the police," he said.

The grounds of the showcause notice are – insult to Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and the State of Maharashtra, and the usage of expressions insulting the State Legislature. "Sushama Andhare issued comments in support of Kamra and made similar comments," Mr. Lad said.

Once the notice is issued, the respondent is asked to give a written reply within 15 days. Failure to do so leads to a second show-cause notice. In case the respondent does not respond to three notices, the committee can ask the police to arrest them, Mr. Lad said.

Thereafter, their statement is recorded in front of the committee.

HC rejects plea against ban by Turkiye-based firm Celebi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Monday dismissed the Turkiye-based airport services firm Celebi's challenge to the revocation of its security clearance by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, in the "interest of national security".

"On perusal of the relevant inputs/information, it indeed transpires that there are compelling national security considerations involved, which impelled the respondents to take impugned action," the court ruled. "There are impelling geopolitical considerations, impinging upon the safety of the country, which are also involved," Justice Sachin Dutta said.

Celebi had contended that the move was in violation of the procedure under the Aircraft (Security) Rules.

For indigenous defence push, Rajnath Singh stresses swift decision-making

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Rajnath Singh with Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan, Army chief Gen. Upendra Dwivedi, Navy chief Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi, Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh in New Delhi. PTI

The valour displayed during Operation Sindoor and the demonstration of domestic equipment during the operation have further increased the global demand for India's defence equipment, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said in Delhi on Monday.

He was addressing the Controllers' Conference of the Defence Accounts Department (DAD), where he emphasised the department's critical role in strengthening the operational readiness and financial agility of the armed forces.

"Our effort is to ensure that decisions are taken swiftly so that we can begin manufacturing larger engines right here in India and that this journey begins with the hands of Indians," he added, reaffirming the government's commitment to building advanced indigenous defence manufacturing capabilities.

"The world is looking at our defence sector with new respect. A single delay or error in financial processes can directly affect operational preparedness," he said.

"Most of the equipment we once imported is now being made in India. Our reforms are succeeding because of the clarity of vision and commitment at the highest level," he added.

Addressing the larger geopolitical context, Mr. Singh mentioned the rising global military expenditure, reaching $2.7 trillion in 2024 as per Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, and stated that this opens up tremendous opportunities for India's indigenous defence industries.

"Until recently, defence budgets were not seen as part of the national economy. Today, they are growth drivers," he asserted.

Mr. Singh mentioned that India, along with the rest of the world, is entering a new phase of re-armament, marked by capital-intensive investments in the defence sector. He urged the department to incorporate defence economics in their planning and assessments, including social impact analysis of R&D projects and dual-use technologies.

Anti-Sikh riots: court records statement of former Congress MP

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Monday recorded the statement of former Congress MP Sajjan Kumar in a case of violence in Janakpuri and Vikaspuri localities during the 1984 anti-Sikh riots.

The Congress leader, present in the court of special judge Dig Vinay Singh, claimed innocence in the case. He said there is not an iota of evidence against him and alleged that the investigation agencies were partial against him. "I am being implicated by unsubstantiated allegations. The case is false and politically motivated," he said.

The matter will be further heard on July 29.

The case stems from two separate FIRs filed over the anti-Sikh riots in 1984, being probed by a special investigation team (SIT). The first FIR, lodged in 2015, is about the murders of Sohan Singh and his son-in-law Avtar Singh on November 1, 1984, in the Janakpuri area. In the second case, on November 2, Gurcharan Singh was allegedly set ablaze by a riotous mob in Vikaspuri. The SIT has accused Kumar in both cases.

A Delhi court in August 2023 had dropped the charges of murder and criminal conspiracy against Kumar in both cases, but charged him with offences such as rioting with deadly weapons and promoting enmity between different groups.

He is currently lodged in the Tihar jail.

Halt revision of Bihar poll rolls immediately: INDIA bloc leaders

Tejashwi says poll body is yet to respond to doubts and questions raised by the Opposition alliance; he says no clarification has been made on use of Aadhaar or ration card as key document, complains that EC advertisement has created confusion

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Raising queries: RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav and other INDIA bloc leaders addressing a press conference in Patna on Monday. ANI

Demanding a halt to the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in poll-bound Bihar, Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance leaders on Monday criticised the Election Commission and said the panel was in a confused situation.

Addressing a press conference, the Rashtriya Janata Dal, Congress, Vikassheel Insaan Party and the Left parties said the EC should not create doubts in the minds of common people, and it should end the complex process in order to strengthen democracy.

The INDIA bloc coordination committee headed by RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav asked the EC to stop the SIR immediately and continue it after the polls.

Mr. Yadav said Bihar Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Vinod Singh Gunjiyal had not yet responded to the doubts and questions raised by the INDIA bloc leaders on Saturday.

"People are confused... no answers to the questions and every day the Election Commission is issuing new guidelines. Instead of clarifying the contradictory situation, people are being misled," Mr. Yadav said.

The RJD leader said, "No clarification is being made on Aadhaar card, MGNREGS card, ration card as all these documents have been considered valid for the inclusion of new voters in Form-6 by the EC but in the notification issued on June 24, 2025, there is no recognition of these documents and 11 other documents have been sought, which are not easy to provide by the poor and deprived sections."

Different instructions

Talking about the EC advertisement which was published in local newspapers of Bihar on Sunday, Mr. Yadav said the EC released a full-page advertisement but two different things were being said.

"The EC says some things in the advertisement but the guidelines say something else. In the advertisement, it was said the enumeration form has to be filled and submitted immediately to the booth level officers and the documents should be given later but soon after, the EC said the form has to be filled according to the order that has already been issued," Mr. Yadav said.

He said there was a lot of difference between the June 24 order and the advertisement released on Sunday, due to which voters were confused.

Bihar Congress chief Rajesh Kumar said that the decision to give the sole responsibility to the Election Registration Officers was wrong. "The right of one person to make a decision can reduce impartiality because anyone can influence them because they are a government person, so they will work under the pressure of the government," he said.

Revision of rolls in Bihar an attempt to exclude two crore voters, says Kharge

Shubhomoy Sikdar
Sandeep Phukan
RAIPUR/NEW DELHI

Mallikarjun Kharge

Attacking the Union government over the Election Commission-mandated special intensive revision (SIR) of Bihar's electoral rolls, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday called it an attempt to exclude two crore voters to secure a poll victory.

Addressing a public meeting in Raipur, Mr. Kharge called the exercise a 'fraud' even as he warned that the ruling party would regret the move.

"This [Prime Minister Narendra] Modi government is going to destroy everyone. Fraud has started in the voter list. Fraud happened in Maharashtra. Today, they are fighting elections in Bihar and there, 2 crore votes are being excluded. If you people want to win elections by excluding them, a time will come when you regret it. You will have to regret the wrong you are doing today," the Congress president said.

The assertions came on a day when the Congress along with nine other parties challenged the SIR in the Supreme Court.

'Mass-scale rigging'

Stepping up the party's attack on the EC over the issue, Congress general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal in an X post said the SIR was "blatantly unconstitutional".

"It has wreaked havoc across the villages and towns of Bihar – giving crores of voters anxiety about whether their right to vote will be stolen. This is mass scale rigging and mischief being carried out by the EC, under instructions from the ruling regime. We have faith that the Supreme Court will deliver justice," Mr. Venugopal said.

His party colleague Randeep Surjewala shared a news report in his X handle that claimed the EC had updated Bihar's electoral roll in January, the data were found to be "robust and processed in June".

"Then, suddenly, it was discarded," Mr. Surjewala said. "This isn't voter list clean-up; it's an attempt to rob the public of their voting rights."

He asserted that "the process called 'Special Intensive Revision' has neither any legal basis nor any mention in the rules".

At the Raipur rally titled, "Jai Jawan-Jai Kisan-Jai Samvidhan", Mr. Kharge asked people to remain united in the fight to protect their '*jal, jungle* and *zameen*' (water, forest, land).

Over 2 cr. voters have submitted forms: EC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission on Monday said that enumeration forms were received from 36.47% of the voters as part of the special intensive revision (SIR) in Bihar and 11.26% of the forms have been uploaded on the EC website.

The names of those who have submitted the forms will be included on the draft electoral rolls to be published on August 1.

As of Monday, 2,87,98,460 enumeration forms of the total of 7,89,69,844 (nearly 7.9 crore) electors in Bihar who are enrolled as on June 24, 2025, have been received. A total of 1,18,49,252 enumeration forms have been collected in the last 24 hours, the EC said in a statement.

The uploading of forms is also being done simultaneously with 11.26% uploaded till 6.00 p.m. on Monday.

In SIR battle, SC refers to 1977 verdict on EC's powers

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Even as a pitched legal battle lies ahead for the special intensive revision (SIR) exercise in Bihar, the Supreme Court on Monday drew petitioners' attention to a judgment which observed that the Constitution does not "exalt" the Election Commission as a "law unto itself".

As Opposition parties joined forces in the court, claiming the SIR of electoral rolls would inflict an ugly dent on the rights of crores from the marginalised sections of Bihar society, and even disenfranchise them, Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, heading a Division Bench, referred to the court's 1977 judgment in *M.S. Gill versus Chief Election Commissioner*, which said the "little, large Indian shall not be hijacked from the course of free and fair elections... A free and fair election based on universal adult franchise is the basic".

The judgment was discussing the ambit of the power of the EC under Article 324 of the Constitution. The Article gives the poll body the power of "superintendence, direction and control" over "all elections".

The judgment discusses the ambit of the power of the EC under Article 324 of the Constitution

However, Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer, who authored the 1977 judgment, said an Election Commissioner was still subject to the "norms of fairness and cannot act arbitrarily".

"Article 324 does not exalt the Election Commission into a law unto itself... Unchecked power is alien to our system... It is well-established that when a high functionary like the Commissioner is vested with wide powers, the law expects him to act fairly and legally. Discretion vested in a high functionary may be reasonably trusted to be used properly, not perversely. If it is misused, certainly the court has power to strike down that act," Justice Iyer, who was part of the five-judge Constitution Bench, had emphasised in the judgment, which may come up prominently for discussion in the next hearing scheduled for July 10.

The verdict was based on a reference after the EC cancelled the election to the 13-Ferozepur Lok Sabha constituency in Punjab in 1977 after mob violence broke out and ordered fresh election. Mr. Gill had challenged the decision. The court upheld the EC's power to cancel the election and order fresh polls under Article 324 of the Constitution.

However, the court said the power of the EC under Article 324 to do whatever was necessary to conduct an election, for that matter, any election, must not end up creating a "constitutional despot". The terms "superintendence, direction and control" as well as "conduct of all elections" were the "broadest" of terms, Justice Iyer said.

These terms opened doors to "myriad maybes, too mystic to be precisely presaged". The EC could explain away certain actions by justifying them as necessary to reach the goal of free and fair election.

Rahul to join Bihar bandh against SIR, labour codes

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will visit Patna on Wednesday to join a Statewide bandh called by Opposition parties over the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the poll-bound Bihar, new labour code and deteriorating law and order situation in the State.

The announcement was made at a press conference addressed by Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav and other INDIA bloc leaders. According to Mr. Yadav, protests will be held across the State.

Rahul targets govt. over 'F&O manipulation by big players'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Rahul Gandhi

Attacking the Narendra Modi government over the alleged "manipulation" of the futures and options (F&O) market, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi accused the Centre of "making the rich richer and pushing ordinary investors to the brink of ruin" by remaining silent on "manipulation" of the F&O market by big players.

Mr. Gandhi's comments came days after the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), in an order on Friday, found the New York-based hedge fund Jane Street guilty of manipulating the Indian indices by taking bets in the cash and F&O markets simultaneously for profits.

'Pockets drained'

In a post on X, Mr. Gandhi claimed he had predicted the loopholes in the F&O market. "I clearly stated in 2024 – the F&O market has become a playground for 'big players', and small investors' pockets are continuously being drained. Now SEBI itself is admitting that Jane Street (Group) manipulated thousands of crores. Why did SEBI remain silent for so long?" he said in a post.

Accusing the Union government led by Mr. Modi of turning a blind eye to the revelation, Mr. Gandhi asked if there were more players rigging the market.

The BJP accused Mr. Gandhi of peddling fear and misinformation about the stock market, asserting that it has created wealth for lakhs of retail investors who have participated in it through mutual funds and IPOs.

(With PTI inputs)

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, PHED, REGION AJMER
PHONE NO. 0145-2624748 FAX NO. 0145-2627671
No. F.()/Ar.AJM/2025-2026/6278-6307 Dated: 25/6/25
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR WORKS
Bid for the work of PROVIDING, LAYING, JOINTING, TESTING, AND COMMISSIONING OF RISING PIPE LINE AND OHSR OF 250 KL AT MASUDA VILLAGE, PS-MASUDA, DISTRICT-BEAWAR under CM budget announcement 2025-2026 (NIT 02-2025-26); (Estimated Cost 288.80 Lac) is invited from interested bidders up to 16.07.2025 Other particulars of the Bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state.
UBN No. PHE2526WSOB04084
NIB No. PHE2526A1982
(Ramchandra Rar)
Additional Chief Engineer
PHED, Region, Ajmer
DIPR/C/9010/2025

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, WATER RESOURCES ZONE, JHALAWAR
No.:- A.C.E./WR./ZONE/JHA/NIT/2025/207-235 Date:-24-06-2025
E-NIT No. 01/2025-26
On Behalf of The Governor of Rajasthan, e-tender is invited for interested bidders for the work for **(1) Construction of MST Village Kohadijhar G.P. Kohadijhar Tehsil Aklera District Jhalawar"** for Completion period of 12 Months **(Including Rainy Season) (Estimated Cost Rs. 392.07 Lacs)** and **"(2) Construction of MST Village Nanagarda G.P. Asalpur Tehsil Aklera District Jhalawar"** for (Completion period of 12 Months **(Including Rainy Season) (Estimated Cost Rs. 304.68 Lacs)** from 27.06.2025 (9:30 AM) to 16.07.2025 (06:00 PM). Other particulars, terms & conditions may be seen on the procurement portal **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**, **www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in**, **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** & **www.waterresources.rajasthan.gov.in**
NIB Code :- WRD2526A0193
UBN For Item No. 01 :- WRD2526WS0B00566
UBN For Item No. 02 :- WRD2526WSOB00567
Additional Chief Engineer
Water Resources Zone,
Jhalawar
DIPR/C/9107/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Panchayats & Rural Development Department
Advertisement for appointment of Director, Social Audit Unit, West Bengal
Panchayats & RD Dept., Govt. of West Bengal seeks applications for the post of Director, Social Audit Unit, West Bengal.
Social Audit Unit is an independent entity in respect of social auditing of government schemes and it is headed by the Director, who is the overall in-charge of the Unit.
For details relating to nature of work, required qualification, age limit, remuneration, mode of application etc., please visit **'Orders/Circulars'** Menu of **https://prd.wb.gov.in**.
Last date of application: 22/07/2025
Those who have already applied for the said post in response to this Dept. advertisements published in December, 2023 and on 17th June, 2025 need not apply again.
ICA- N 308(4)/2025

Modi government is fixated on big businesses, says Jairam

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Targeting the Centre over its handling of the economy, the Congress on Monday said the industry's share in GDP was shrinking but big businesses are gaining in strength.

In a post on X, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh accused the Centre of focusing on big businesses, saying that the growth of such business groups was not accelerating economic growth. Mr. Ramesh said that concentration of resources was one of the main causes of inflation due to rising prices.

"While tall claims continue to be made by the PM and his drum beaters on industrial growth, three facts are incontrovertible – Industry's share in GDP has been declining, just as concentration in industry has been increasing. This has raised prices for consumers and is one of the main sources of inflation," he said. He said within the 'G25' in Indian business, there is a 'G5' whose share is increasing at the expense of the remaining 'G20'. "Big business groups are growing even bigger but that is not accelerating economic growth – in fact, it may be doing the reverse," he said, citing an article in a newspaper.

"Governments must bet big on small and medium business. Instead, the Modi Government is fixated on big business," he said.

ANDHRA PRADESH TOURISM AUTHORITY
5th Floor, Stalin Corporate, Auto Nagar, Vijayawada
No.APTA-13025/70/2025 (Comp.No.2876851) Dt.07.07.2025
NOTIFICATION
1. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has notified the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Policy 2024-2029 and the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Land Allotment Policy 2024-2029 to facilitate the optimal and efficient use of government-owned land for tourism infrastructure.
2. For Large, Mega and Ultra Mega Tourism Projects, lands will be allocated on long term lease basis as per the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Policy 2024-2029 and the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Land Allotment Policy 2024-2029. To operationalize the Land Allotment Policy, guidelines are being formulated.
3. In order to create a robust and transparent process for the selection of investment partners for tourism projects on government land, the entire land bank of the AP Tourism Authority (APTA) is being published in the website, "aptourism.gov.in". This includes land available with the APTA as well as the lands to be handed over to APTA.
4. Interested investors may file applications, along with the DPR and other details as sought in the Land Allocation Guidelines through mail to **ceo-apta@ap.gov.in**. Such applications will be processed only after 30 days from the date of publication of the aforesaid land details in the website. Land bank will be regularly updated on the website. Prospective Investors are requested to track the website for all new information.
Sd/- Amrapali Kata, IAS.,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DIPR 4244PP/CL, Dt.07-07-2025

idco Your power to grow ISO 9001 & 14001 Corporation | ODISHA NEW OPPORTUNITIES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (P&C), IDCO, IDCO TOWERS, JANPATH, BHUBANESWAR - 751022
Tender Call Notice No. IDCO:H.O./P&C/EST/E-2923/01/2025/ 19026 , Dt. : 30.06.2025
NOTICE INVITING TENDER UNDER NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-PROCUREMENT
1. Name of the Work : Converting the entire median to Road in Surge Protection Embankment at Paradeep, Jagatsinghpur District, Odisha.
2. Value of the Work : Rs.1754.20 Lakhs
3. Period of Completion : 08 (Eight) Calendar Months.
4. Other details

Procurement Officer	Tender Reference No.	Availability of Tender On-Line for Bidding	
1	2	3	4
Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, IDCO Towers, Janpath, Bhubaneswar-751022	P&C/EST/E-23/2025-26	10.07.2025 at 17.00 Hrs.	25.07.2025 up to 17.00 Hrs.

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal, **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** and Corrigendum if any will not be published in newspapers and can only be seen in the e-Procurement portal **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** and **www.idco.in.**
Sd/- Chief General Manager (P&C),
IDCO, Bhubaneswar
CAD-964
OIPR-14003/11/0189/2526

INBRIEF

Army chief commends Major who helped pregnant woman

Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi on Monday praised Major Bachwala Rohit for his outstanding professionalism and selfless dedication in assisting a pregnant woman in distress at the Jhansi railway station. Major Rohit, a doctor with the Army Medical Corps, performed an emergency delivery on the platform of the railway station on July 5. Major Rohit's swift and decisive action, under non-clinical and resource-constrained circumstances, is a testament to his medical proficiency, composure under pressure, and unwavering commitment to the ethos of the armed forces, the Army said in a statement.

Bear that killed three men battered to death in M.P.

Three men were killed and two were injured by a bear at a village near the Sanjay-Dubri Tiger Reserve (STR) in Sidhi district of Madhya Pradesh on Monday, officials said. The animal was also injured in the clash and was later killed by angry people. Rajesh Kanna, Deputy Director, STR, told *The Hindu* that the incident took place on Monday in Bastua village in the Madwas range of the Tiger Reserve after the bear attacked a buffalo. Mr. Kanna said that five villagers tried to chase the bear away to rescue the buffalo, which caused the animal to attack them. The deceased have been identified as Babbu Yadav, 80, his son Santosh Yadav, 43, and Deenbandhu Sahu, 70.

Social Justice Ministry seeks more funds for scholarship

While the Ministry selected 106 marginalised students for National Overseas Scholarship scheme, it will give provisional award letter to 40, while the rest will get it subject to 'availability of funds'

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The Union Social Justice Ministry is in the process of seeking additional allocation for administering the National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) scheme for marginalised students, officials told *The Hindu*, days after the Ministry withheld provisional award letters to 66 selected candidates "subject to availability of funds" in the 2025-26 cycle.

On July 1, the Ministry declared the results for the 2025-26 cycle of the NOS, saying that 106 students had been selected for the 125 annual slots available. But it added that only the first 40 candidates will be given provisional award letters, and the rest will get the letter "subject to availability of funds".

The Ministry administers this scholarship for students from the Scheduled Castes; Denotified, Semi-Nomadic, and Nomadic Tribes; landless agricultural labourers; and traditional artisans, for pursuing their postgraduate studies in top universities abroad.

This is the first time in at least three years that the first round of results for the NOS has seen the selection committee unable to fill all 125 available slots.

Helping hand: The scholarship is given to students from marginalised communities for pursuing higher studies abroad. GETTY IMAGES

Further, the applications received for the scholarship also dropped to a low of around three years to about 440. This comes even as the Budget Estimates for 2025-26 showed that the scheme received the highest allocation it has in around five years – ₹130 crore.

A senior government official said, "We are seeking more allocation to administer the scheme. The allocation this year is higher than others. But what must be considered is that the scholarship is paid throughout the period of education of the candidates. So, a part of this year's allocation must be used for this as well, that is for candidates selected in previous years who are continuing their studies. As a result, the Ministry is seeking more allocation and soon this will be worked out."

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi shared a report on this on Monday and asked the Union government to "immediately reverse the inhumane decision and send these 66 students abroad". Taking a dig at the Narendra Modi-led government, Mr. Gandhi said the government "suddenly remembers its budget" when backward and Dalit students want to study "but thousands of crores are spent without hesitation on Modiji's foreign trips, propaganda, and event extravaganza".

Notably, the fund crunch for the NOS administered by the Social Justice Ministry comes even as the government is in the middle of evaluating the scheme in time for the 16th financial cycle, which will be beginning from financial year 2026-27. "All the issues in administering the scholarship are being considered," the official said. The evaluation is part of the government's procedure to check how the scheme is performing and decide if it should be continued.

Earlier this year, the department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment had pointed out several issues with the gamut of scholarship schemes administered by the Ministry. The panel had noted that the amounts of scholarships were not enough and the slots for schemes such as NOS need to be increased.

Five of Bihar family burnt to death on witchcraft allegation

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Five members of a family, three of them women, were burnt alive in Purnia district of Bihar over allegation of practising witchcraft, the police said. The incident took place on Sunday night at Tetgama village in the Muffasil police station limits.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Purnia Deputy Inspector-General of Police Pramod Kumar Mandal said, "The child of a resident, Ramdev Mahto, fell ill and he had approached Babulal Oraon, 50, for treatment but the child did not survive. The death happened three days ago. Hence, Oraon and his family were beaten with sticks and then burnt alive. The bodies were stuffed into sacks and dumped."

Mr. Mandal further said that three persons were arrested in connection with the incident and a tractor used to dump the bodies was seized.

The murders were witnessed by Oraon's 16-year-old son, who managed to escape and inform his maternal grandparents. The deceased were identified as Oraon, Sita Devi, 48, Kato Devi, 65, Manjit Oraon, 25, and Rani Devi, 23.

Relatives mourn the murder of five in the name of witchcraft in Purnea on Monday. ANI

The 16-year-old told the media that his mother was accused of performing witchcraft and a meeting was held under the leadership of Nakul Oraon. "About 200 people attended the meeting. My father and mother were called and the villagers decided to kill them. They were assaulted with sticks and then burnt alive. Their bodies were loaded on a tractor and dumped," the boy said.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Tejashwi Yadav said "anarchy is at its peak in Bihar" and "law and order has collapsed". He further said while "criminals are alert, the Chief Minister is unconscious".

'Blueprint for 50,000 jobs for northeast's youth ready'

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

The Centre has made a blueprint to prepare the youth of northeastern States for 50,000 jobs in the maritime sector over the next 10 years, Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal said on Monday.

He said the Centre has set a target of generating 5,000 jobs for the eight-State region's youth annually through the Maritime Skill Development Centre in Guwahati and the upcoming Centre of Excellence in Dibrugarh worth ₹200 crore.

"We plan to train and empower 50,000 youth from the northeast with world-class maritime skills over the next decade," Mr Sonowal said at an event in Guwahati to mark 11 years of the Modi government.

ISRO chief, officials speak to astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla, currently aboard the International Space Station (ISS) as part of the Axiom-4 mission, had a telephone conversation with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman V. Narayanan and senior officials of the space agency.

The conversation took place on Sunday. During the call, Dr. Narayanan expressed keen interest in Group Captain Shukla's well-being and enquired about the various scientific experiments being conducted on the ISS.

The Chairman emphasised the significance of documenting all experiments and activities meticulously after Mr. Shukla's return to earth, as this will provide valuable insights and inputs for the development of Gaganyaan, India's human spaceflight programme.

Shubhanshu Shukla poses for a photo with a panoramic view of earth as background. ANI

The Gaganyaan programme aims to demonstrate India's capability to launch a crewed spacecraft into low earth orbit, and the experience and knowledge gained from this mission will be crucial for its success. Mr. Shukla's ISS mission has been executed under the ISRO-Axiom Spaceflight agreement.

Other participants in the discussion included Dr. Unnikrishnan Nair, Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) and Chairman of the Program Management Council for Human Space Programme, M. Mohan, Director of Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC), Padmakumar E.S., Director of ISRO Inertial Systems Unit (IISU), M. Ganesh Pillai, Scientific Secretary of ISRO, and N. Vedachalam, former Director of LPSC. These officials also interact with Mr. Shukla during the call.

They discussed various aspects of the mission. The ISRO said the astronaut expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for providing him this incredible opportunity to represent India on the ISS. He acknowledged the efforts of the Chairman and the team at the ISRO in ensuring his safe travel to the ISS.

Linguistic groups, actors, politicians protest over Narendra Jadhav panel

Snehal Mutha
MUMBAI

The Shaley Shikshan Abhyas Samiti (School Education Study Committee) held a protest on Monday at Mumbai's Azad Maidan, to oppose the Maharashtra government's decision to appoint a committee to study implementation of the three-language formula in schools.

"At least 25 organisations backed the protest, demanding resignation of the School Education Minister Dada Bhuse," Sushil Shejule, a member of the Marathi Shala Sanstha, told *The Hindu*.

Days after the Mahayuti-led government withdrew two government resolutions (GRs) introducing Hindi as the third language from grade 1 to 5 in Marathi and English medium schools, the linguistic controversy continues in the State. Regional linguistic groups, academicians, civil society members, and television artists have raised concerns over "Hindi imposition" and "suppression of Marathi".

Actors Sumeet Raghavan and Chinmayee Sumeet, along with their children, participate in the protest at Azad Maidan. SNEHAL MUTHA

The government-appointed committee, to be headed by economist and educationist Narendra Jadhav, also received much flak. The protesters questioned the need for the committee after the GRs being scrapped.

Maharashtra Congress president Harshawardhan Sapkal opposed the government move and said that the "imposition" was done to implement the "Hindi, Hindu, Hindustan" policy by the BJP. MP Varsha Gaikwad and MLA Jyoti Gaikwad participated in the protest. Actor Sumeet Raghavan and Chinmayi Sumeet were present with their children.

Primary education must be in mother tongue: RSS

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Primary education should be given in mother tongue, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh said on Monday.

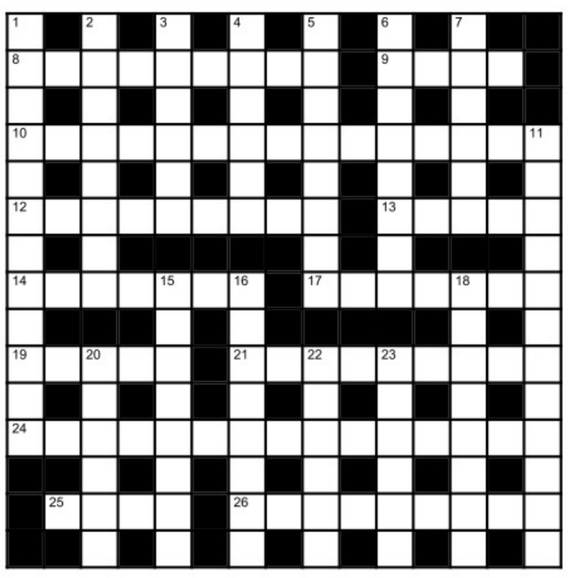
"All Indian languages are national languages. This has been the RSS's position for a long time now. In each State, people speak their own language, they insist that primary education should be in that language. I think, this is a well-established fact for some time now," Sunil Ambekar, RSS Akhil Bharatiya Prachar Pramukh, said.

TH CROSSWORD + 14531

(set by Crescent)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Snigger on ordinary uniform being worn by female in clothing establishment (9)
9 Tree's energy absorbed by people from the East (4)
10 Mere tip of nose stuck out with photo finish (3,3,7,2)
12 Up the creek where fish stock might be going for food? (2,3,4)
13 Bird for example on edge of nest (5)
14 Subject of Queen's lavender clothing collection (7)
17 Harness team shifting every other horse (3,4)
19 Month in Thailand with some music, March? (5)
21 A fellow with fun and zeal distraught in sudden-wealth syndrome (9)
24 Completely changing trend tough on trailing index (4,2,3,6)
25 Lifeless apartment (4)
26 Bosom buddy's first act done was dear (4,1,4)

Down

1 Place India secured by say, education is lauded (12)
2 Images shared by leader of terrorist acts (8)
3 Fruit slice, chilli cheese sandwiches (6)
4 Worried old prime minister withdrawing in time (1,5)
5 Crazy joke turning head (8)
6 Heavily involved in store checking requirement (4-4)
7 Minor wind capsized circling ship (6)
11 New Deal not a bit deranged, government's outstanding (8,4)
15 Wild animal biting tame animal, it's hunger (8)
16 They stretch decency essentially to hold out topless pictures (8)
18 One not taking oath nor holding up our end for Union Jack (8)
20 Principle in arithmetic: multiply in addition? (2,4)
22 Iron collars help to alter line of light skin (6)
23 Fertiliser containing nitrogen a little less fancied (6)

SUDOKU

			4			7		
4					7	9		6
		7		8	3		4	
				5		8	2	
8								9
	3	5		9				
	6		1	7		3		
7		4	3					2
		9			2			

No.SS6574 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

	P	R		A		S		B		G		R		
O	R	F	E		N	O	W	O	R	N	E	V	E	R
	O		S		G		A		A		N		L	
C	H	E	E	S	E			N	A	K	E	D	E	Y	E
	I		R		L				E		E			
A	B	O	V	E	A	L	L		P	I	R	A	C	Y
	I		E				O		A				L	
S	T	U	D		B	L	O	N	D		G	O	O	D
	E				R		T				E		C	
A	D	A	G	I	O			S	H	I	I	T	A	K	E
			A		A				M		R		T	
S	U	M	M	E	D	U	P		P	R	I	S	O	N
	R		B		E		L		I		D		W	
A	D	M	I	S	S	I	O	N	S		O	V	E	N
	U		A		T		T		H		F		R	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

2	1	6	8	4	3	9	5	7
8	9	5	6	2	7	4	3	1
3	4	7	5	9	1	2	8	6
5	3	8	4	1	2	6	7	9
9	2	4	7	8	6	5	1	3
7	6	1	9	3	5	8	4	2
1	5	3	2	6	8	7	9	4
6	7	9	3	5	4	1	2	8
4	8	2	1	7	9	3	6	5

FAITH

Undertaking good deeds

It is good to think of all beings as being well. It is better to put the thought into action by praying to God to extend his blessings upon all. The easiest medium is to chant his names and recite stotras composed by various Acharyas. The mental peace that a person derives from doing a good job or helping others cannot be compared to or equated with anything else. Bhattadri says, "I cannot do yaga or yoga, but I want to bathe in the stream of your divine stories and get immersed in the same."

Recitation of stotras is equal to performing poojas a million times. Undertaking penance (*Tapas*) is equivalent to reciting stotras a million times. Adi Sankara prays to the Goddess that if she wants to show mercy to anyone, he should be the first person. Worshipping the Sun God is believed to yield wealth and good health. Circumambulating a cow is equal to going round all the 14 worlds. Our elders have reaped significant benefits by performing small good deeds. Saint Sridhara Ayyaval says he should not happen to see the faults or blemishes of others. If at all, he had to know, it should be of his own. The grandsire Bhishma says that a person may have rebirth even after performing the Aswamedha Yaga several times, but will have no rebirth if they worship Lord Krishna.

Kesava Vajapeya Swamy said in a discourse that Hanuman helped Rama in locating Sita. When Hanuman saw her in Ashokavana, he gave her Rama's ring, and she was in tears. Sita told Hanuman that she gained confidence that Rama would come and rescue her. Hanuman was all ecstatic and told Sita that he would inform Rama of the good news.

INBRIEF

Kalyan Jewellers reports 31% revenue growth in Q1 FY26

Kalyan Jewellers on Monday reported a 31% year-on-year increase in consolidated revenue for Q1 of the FY 2025-26, despite multiple pauses in demand, majorly due to volatility in gold prices and geopolitical tensions. The company had reported a consolidated net revenue of ₹5,557.63 crore in the first quarter of the 2024-25 fiscal. India operations saw 31% revenue growth during Q1 of the FY 2025-26 compared with Q1 of the previous year, the company said in a filing. PTI

Aditya Birla Sun Life AMC mobilises ₹700 cr. via AIF

Aditya Birla Sun Life AMC on Monday said it has raised ₹700 crore through the first closure of its Structured Opportunities Fund - Series II, a Category II Alternative Investment Fund (AIF). The fund aims to raise ₹1,250 crore with a greenshoe option of an additional ₹1,250 crore, aiming for a total mobilisation of ₹2,500 crore. The fund focuses on credit opportunities, offering capital solutions across growth, strategic, and opportunistic requirements. PTI

JioBlackRock MF raises over ₹17,800 cr. via maiden NFO

JioBlackRock Asset Management Pvt. Ltd., a 50:50 joint venture between Jio Financial Services Limited (JFSL) and BlackRock, on Monday announced closure of its maiden New Fund Offer (NFO), recording a total investment of ₹17,800 crore (-USD 2.1 billion). The fund was mobilised from three cash/debt mutual fund schemes – JioBlackRock Overnight Fund, JioBlackRock Liquid Fund and JioBlackRock Money Market Fund. PTI

'Capgemini's $3.3-bn WNS deal leaves the Big Four in big shock'

Transaction may kick off a round of industry consolidation as the large strategics prepare for massive changes AI begins to bring: Everest Group

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Great expectations: Both firms could deliver end-to-end services the Big 4 cannot, and at lower price points, say observers. REUTERS

Capgemini, the Paris-based technology and digital transformation major, made the Big 4 - Deloitte, PwC, EY, and KPMG - sit up globally on Monday with its announcement of buying the India-grown business process management firm WNS for a total cash consideration of $3.3 billion, said global analysts.

The French tech major said it would acquire U.S.-listed WNS for a cash consideration of $76.50 per share, which represents a premium of 28% to the last 90-day average share price, of 27% to the last 30-day average share price and a premium of 17% to the last closing share price on July 3, 2025.

"This acquisition will give Capgemini a new positioning in the global tech market against the Big 4 comprising Deloitte, PwC, EY, and KPMG, which have traditionally dominated the consulting and technology services," Phil Fersht, CEO, HFS Research, a Cambridge-based analyst firm told *The Hindu*.

Mr. Fersht said, from a competitive perspective, a potential big win for Capgemini was its new positioning against the Big 4, which have traditionally dominated consulting and technology services.

"With Capgemini's global scale and depth of technical capabilities, the addition of WNS could create an ideal incubation business to develop leading-edge Services-as-Software solutions to attack this huge $1.5 trillion emerging marketing opportunity," Mr. Fersht said.

"The long-rumoured acquisition of WNS is finally here. Capgemini is returning to its acquisition lead growth model and acting as a major force in industry consolidation.," said Peter Bendor-Samuel, founder and executive chairman of Dallas-based Everest Group.

According to the Everest Group's chief, Capgemini is betting that the WNS book of business will provide a fertile ground for AI-driven transformation and allow it to develop new transformative AI-powered platforms. "The potential is clearly there, but the journey will require significant additional investment and a resolute leadership team," Mr. Bendor-Samuel cautioned.

He said BPM as a space has held up well in a world rocked by AI, which has yet to have a significant impact on the space. "However, this deal could be the start of a significant industry consolidation," he opined. "This may well kick off another round of industry consolidation as the large strategics look to grow inorganically and prepare for the massive changes that AI is starting to bring," he forecast.

Tech industry observers said Capgemini, with WNS's operational expertise integrated into its offerings, could deliver end-to-end transformation services that the Big 4 cannot, and at lower price points.

SEBI mulls expanding AMC businesses with safeguards

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) said in its paper that it had received a representation from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) and other industry participants saying that broad-based funds – at least 20 investors; and no single investor accounting for more than 25% of the corpus of the fund – were barriers to do business as they did not provide a level-playing field with non-broad based funds.

"In view of the same, it was decided to review and consider relaxing the broad basing requirement and permitting asset management companies (AMCs) to serve pooled non-broad based funds as well, subject to strong governance and regulatory controls that would address any concerns related to conflicts of interest situations," SEBI said.

The regulator proposes that in case the two different services are to be conducted under the same company, they could be separated by "Chinese Walls" or through "operational segregation."

The paper also delineated the conflicts that could arise, like diversion of resources from mutual funds to more exclusive investment management services. To solve this, SEBI proposed to introduce caps on the difference between the fee charged for non-broad based services and the mutual fund business. The regulator also flagged the risk of AMCs indulging in insider trading or even transfer low quality assets from non-broad based funds to mutual funds, violating the principle of fair treatment. SEBI. however. proposed not to allow this transfer and that all the regulation would come under the ambit of Prevention of Insider Trading regulations.

The regulator also flagged the risk of AMCs indulging in insider trading. REUTERS

Apart from these, SEBI also proposed that subsidiaries of AMCs registered as a pension fund manager may be allowed to be point of presence (POP) for pension funds and collecting commissions or fees from the investor as permitted by PFRDA , all while protecting the interest of mutual fund investor. SEBI also proposed that AMCs can distribute their funds globally, but shall limit themselves to direct funds. The regulator has given time till July 28 for stakeholders to give their suggestions.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	83,442	0.01
US Dollar	85.94	-0.63
Gold	98,570	-0.55
Brent oil	69.18	—

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2576.10	-23.00
Adani Ports	1435.60	11.20
Apollo Hosp	7616.00	62.50
Asian Paints	2442.80	18.60
Axis Bank	1175.10	-2.50
Bajaj Auto	8463.50	30.50
Bajaj Finserv	2006.40	12.00
Bajaj Finance	924.65	-0.65
Bharat Elec	417.10	-10.45
Bharti Airtel	2033.90	16.70
Cipla	1510.50	-2.80
Coal India	384.25	-1.85
Dr Reddys Lab	1310.50	3.10
Eicher Motors	5682.50	53.50
Eternal Ltd.	258.55	-2.85
Grasim Ind	2779.10	-26.80
HCL Tech	1710.40	-15.50
HDFC Bank	1987.40	-1.90
HDFC Life	789.45	4.35
Hero MotoCorp	4307.00	-38.00
Hindalco	692.10	-7.35
Hind Unilever	2410.40	71.10
ICICI Bank	1435.70	-7.10
IndusInd Bank	854.45	-1.80
Infosys	1627.00	-13.70
ITC	416.15	3.60
Jio Financial Servic-es Ltd.	328.05	3.10
JSW Steel	1042.60	1.20
Kotak Bank	2149.80	20.00
L&T	3581.40	-13.20
M&M	3160.20	-2.30
Maruti Suzuki	12520.00	-126.00
NestleIndia	2422.10	29.30
NTPC	337.45	1.95
ONGC	241.52	-3.72
PowerGrid Corp	295.90	1.90
Reliance Ind	1541.50	14.20
SBI Life	1808.30	8.60
State Bank	806.85	-5.00
Shriram Finance Ltd.	671.30	-4.85
Sun Pharma	1679.90	3.60
TataConsumerPro-duct	1101.90	12.20
Tata Motors	688.85	-0.20
Tata Steel	162.40	-0.61
TCS	3411.70	-8.10
Tech Mahindra	1623.90	-31.30
Titan	3666.10	-20.80
Trent Ltd.	5499.00	43.00
UltraTech Cement	12345.00	-161.00
Wipro	267.75	-2.30

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 07

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.65	85.97
Euro	100.46	100.84
British Pound	116.63	117.07
Japanese Yen (100)	58.87	59.09
Chinese Yuan	11.94	11.99
Swiss Franc	107.40	107.82
Singapore Dollar	66.98	67.24
Canadian Dollar	62.71	62.95
Malaysian Ringitt	20.19	20.32
Australian Dollar	56.67	55.88

Source:Indian Bank

Implementation of QCO for cotton bales postponed to 2026

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

The textile industry welcomed the Centre's move.

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has postponed the implementation of Quality Control Order (QCO) on cotton bales to August 2026 from August this year. The Cotton Bales (Quality Control) Order, 2023 has been amended for implementation from August 27, 2026.

Industry sources said the textile industry, the main cotton consumer, welcomed the move.

However, the sources said the Centre should withdraw the QCO as the BIS specifications for cotton bales do not have norms for contamination levels permitted for cotton.

The contamination levels are high in Indian cotton and the industry imports high-quality cotton that is contamination free. Cotton growers in other countries will not go in for BIS stamp.

Further, overseas garment brands are nominating raw material suppliers now and the Indian textile industry sources substantial quantity of cotton or yarn from the nominated suppliers.

They will miss the orders as these suppliers will not have BIS registration.

Since there are several practical challenges in implementing the order, the government should withdraw it, they said.

June auto retail sales rose 5% backed by all segments: FADA

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Automobile retail sales in June grew 4.84% year on year (YoY) backed by growth in all segments of the industry.

Two-wheelers (2W) rose at 4.73%, three-wheelers (3W) grew 6.68%, passenger vehicles (PV) inched 2.45%, tractor sales surged 8.68%, and commercial vehicles (CV) rose by 6.6%, according to data released by the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) on Monday.

In 2Ws, while festival and marriage-season demand provided a boost, financing constraints and intermittent variant shortages moderated sales, FADA president C.S. Vigneshwar said.

"Early monsoon rains and rising electric vehicle (EV) penetration also shaped buying patterns. Several dealers cited compulsory billing and forced stock lifts – often via auto-debit wholesales – leading to mandated high days of inventory aligned with festival-season targets. Overall, June demonstrated a resilient two-wheeler performance amid mixed market signals," he said.

PV retails slipped 1.49% month on month (MoM) and heavy rains and tight market liquidity weighed on footfall and conversion, even as elevated incentive schemes and fresh bookings lent selective support.

"Some dealers indicated certain PV OEMs introduced compulsory billing procedures such as automatic wholesale debits to meet volume targets; inventory consequently stands at around 55 days. June thus painted a picture of modest but steadfast PV performance amid varied market cues," he said.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಸಹಕಾರ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ ನಿಬಂಧಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ನಂ. 01, ಆಲಿ ಆಸ್ಕರ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-52
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: RCS/LQD/LQD1(MISC/12/15/2025) C&M ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07/07/2025
ಇ-ಹರಾಜು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
e-Auciton Notice No.:DOC/2025-26/AUCTION4
ಸಹಕಾರ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಅಧೀನದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಸಮಾಪನಾ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘದ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಜಕ್ಕಸಂದ್ರ ಬಡಾವಣೆ, ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂ.49/35 ರಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಆಸ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ಎಲ್ಲಿದೆಯೋ ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಗಿದೆಯೋ ಹಾಗೆ, (As is where is & with all faults basis) e-auction KPP portal ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಾಡಲು ತೀರ್ಮಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಸದರಿ ಆಸ್ತಿಯು ಹಾಲಿ ಸಂಘದ ಸುಪರ್ದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ ಮತ್ತು ಸದರಿ ಆಸ್ತಿಯ ವಿರುದ್ಧ Wp No.35987/2017 ಬಾಕಿ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಸದರಿ ಆಸ್ತಿಯ ಮಾರಾಟ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ಹಾಗೂ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು 16-07-2025 ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನೋಡುವುದು.
ಸಹಿ/-
ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ ಅಪರ ನಿಬಂಧಕರು
(ಬಳಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾರಾಟ)
ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/1675/ಆಕಾರ್/2025-26

E-TENDER NOTICE
SAI
Sports Authority of India, NSSC, Bangalore invites e-tender for following works : -
1. SAI/NSSC/ENGG/NIT-03/2025-26 for CARRYING OUT OF INSTALLATION OF NEW STREET LIGHT POLES WITH FITTINGS AND LAYING OF UG CABLES AT SAI, NSSC, BANGALORE. For more details please visit E-Tender website **http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app, https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in & http://www.saisouth-bangalore.com.**
The Last date of Submission of E-Tender is 26.07.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.
Sd/-, Deputy Director-Infra

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ
ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ - 561 203.
E-mail : itstaff_ulb_doddaballapur@yahoo.com
Website : www.doddaballapurcity.gov.in
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ನ.ಸ.ದೊ./ತಾಂ.ವಿ./ಟಿ.ಎನ್. ನಂ. 08/2025-26
ದಿನಾಂಕ : 04-07-2025
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)
ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ರವರು 2025-26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಅನುದಾನ Untied, 2025-26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ. ಅನುದಾನ, ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ. ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಸ್.ಸಿ.ಎಸ್.ಪಿ., 2025-26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ. ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಟಿ.ಎಸ್.ಪಿ. ಯೋಜನೆ ಹಾಗೂ 2024-25 & 2025-26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ನಗರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿಯಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಕೆ.ಟಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ನಿಯಮಗಳನ್ವಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದೆ.
ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ ವರ್ಗದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಾದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ : 1) DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT43858, 2) DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT43904, ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ ವರ್ಗದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಾದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ : 3) DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT43863, ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗ-1 ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಾದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ : 4) DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT43860, ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗ-2ಎ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಾದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ : 5) DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT43864, 6) DMA/2025-26/EL/WORK_INDENT43903, 7) DMA/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT43906, ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು : 8) DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT43861, 9) DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT43868, 10) DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT43869, 11) DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT43870, 12) DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT43900, 13) DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT43902, 14) DMA/2025-26/EL/WORK_INDENT43908, 15) DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT43909, 16) DMA/2025-26/ OW/WORK_INDENT43910.
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 02, 06, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16 ರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 19-07-2025 ರ 17.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 21-07-2025 ರ 17.15 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 01, 03, 04, 05, 07, 08, 09, 10 & 11 ರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 21-07-2025 ರ 17.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 22-07-2025 ರ 17.15 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಶಾಖೆಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಪಡೆದು ತಿಳಿದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಮತ್ತು ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
ಸಹಿ/- ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ. | ಸಹಿ/- ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ. | ಸಹಿ/- ಸ್ಥಾಯಿ ಸಮಿತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ. | ಸಹಿ/- ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ.
ಬಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಬೆಂಗ್ರಾಪ್ರ/ಮಣಿಪಾಲ್/1663/2025-26

BENGALURU CITY UNIVERSITY
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ
Office of the Registrar, Central College Campus, Dr. B.R Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru - 560001. Ph.No.080-22961016 / 22131385, E-mail: bcuacct@gmail.com
Tender No: BCU/2025-26/AUCTION Date: 04.07.2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through E-Procurement portal only)

Name of the work	E-Auction for Investment of Surplus Funds in fixed deposits
EMD	Rs. 1000
Last date for queries	14.07.2025
Last date to upload Tender Document	16.07.2025
Date of Evalution	21.07.2025
Participation of Bid Auction date	23.07.2025

Note: Payment of Tender processing fee and EMD amount as per E-procurement Portal.
Sd/-
Registrar
DIPR/CP/1679/SSC/2025-26

Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of Uttar Pradesh Undertaking)
GSTIN: 09AACCU2250P1ZZ CIN: U85310UP2018SGC102425
Date: 04-07-2025
Tender Notice Invitation
Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Limited, Lucknow invites tenders on GeM Portal from eligible and qualified Manufacturer/Importer/Authorized Agent for supply of following items. The schedules of Tendering activities are as here under:

Sr. No.	Tender Ref. No. & Date	Items Name	Date & Time of Pre-Bid Meeting	Last Date & Submission of Online Bids	Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bids
1	GEM/2025/B/6412946 Dated: 04-07-2025	Ceiling OT Light	14/07/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	25/07/2025 up to 18:00 PM	25/07/2025 at 18:30 PM
2	GEM/2025/B/6412806 Dated: 04-07-2025	General Operating Table	14/07/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	25/07/2025 up to 18:00 PM	25/07/2025 at 18:30 PM
3	GEM/2025/B/6414095 Dated: 04-07-2025	Ultrasound Machine	15/07/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	25/07/2025 up to 18:00 PM	25/07/2025 at 18:30 PM
4	GEM/2025/B/6412002 Dated: 04-07-2025	500 mA X-Ray Machine	15/07/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	25/07/2025 up to 18:00 PM	25/07/2025 at 18:30 PM
5	GEM/2025/B/6412702 Dated: 04-07-2025	Portable Ultrasound Machine	15/07/2025 at 4:00 PM in Conference Hall of UPMSCL, Lucknow.	25/07/2025 up to 18:00 PM	25/07/2025 at 18:30 PM

The details of tender notice are given on GeM Portal & UPMSCL website www.upmsc.in. Kindly check GeM Portal & UPMSCL website for any detail & updates.
Managing Director, UPMSCL
Department of Medical Health & Family Welfare, Uttar Pradesh

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD
Office of the Chief Engineer (East)
6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009
No: BWSSB/CE(E)/ACE(E)/DCE(M)-1/TA(E)/1709/2025-26 Dated: 07.07.2025
INVITATION FOR TENDER
(only through KPP Portal)
BWSSB invites Tenders in Two Stage Tender System from eligible Contractors for Providing, laying and linking of 300mm dia MS Water supply line and 200mm Dia MS Water supply line and 200mm dia MS branch to provide water supply facilities to M/s SDI (Airforce Establishment) at Kempapura village coming under Marathahalli S/s of AEESE-2 sub division.
Amount Put to Tender: ₹ 265.76 Lakhs, EMD : ₹ 3,99,000/-
Last date for submission of Completed Tender documents on **22.07.2025** upto **16:00** Hrs. Tenders will be opened on **23.07.2025** after **16:00** Hrs. The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.
Sd/-
Chief Engineer (East)
DIPR/SI/1680/2025-26

Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited
(A wholly owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN: U04010KA2002SGC030438)
E-TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP portal only)
Tender no.: BESCOM/2025-26/SE0278
BESCOM invites Request For Proposal (RFP) for "Selection of Solar Power Generators (SPGs) on the basis of Build, Own & Operate (BOO) for Design, Survey, Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning, Operation & Maintenance of grid connected distributed solar power plants for solarization of selected Agri feeders at Sub-Station (SS) level to the capacity of 500MW in BESCOM jurisdiction, its associated 11kV line to connect the plant with concerned SS and Remote Monitoring System (RMS) of solar power plants through RESCO mode, for 25 years under Component C-Feeder Level Solarization of PM-KUSUM Scheme". The bid documents will be available **on or after 21.07.2025 in https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The prospective bidders have to register in the bidding portal. For any queries regarding portal, please contact KPPP helpdesk no.:080-46010000, 080-68948777 or email: support@eprochelpdesk.com.
Sd/- General Manager (Ele.) DSM, BESCOM, Bengaluru.
For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP

VISVESVARAYA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
"Jnana Sangama", Belagavi - 590018, Karnataka
Ref.No: VTU/BGM/RE/2025-26/IFT No.58/1489 Date: 03-07-2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) - (Through E-Procurement Only)
The e-Tenders is invited in duplicate from eligible Tenderers, registered Firm / Agency, by the Registrar, Visvesvaraya Technological University, "Jnana Sangama", Belagavi - 18, under standard tender document procedure Service format for the work of **Providing Catering Services for Hostel U.G / P.G Students at Mess Block of VTU, VIAT, Muddenahalli for the year 2025-26. Amounting to Rs. 1,90,38,000/- (Excluding GST).** Other details log on to Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on 08-07-2025.**
Sd/- Registrar
VTU, Belagavi
DIPR/Belagavi/604/Adverto/2025-26

DUBAI

Yemen's Houthis launch missiles in response to Israel's air strikes

REUTERS

Israel's military launched air strikes early on Monday targeting ports and facilities held by Yemen's Houthi rebels, who responded with missile fire targeting Israel. The strikes came after an attack on Sunday targeting a Liberian-flagged ship in the Red Sea that caught fire and took on water, later forcing its crew to abandon it. AFP

MORRISTOWN

Trump slams former ally Elon Musk's political party as 'ridiculous'

REUTERS

U.S. President Donald Trump slammed former ally Elon Musk's launching of a new political party as "ridiculous", after the tech billionaire said he wanted to challenge the United States' "one-party system." "Third parties have never worked. So he can have fun with it, but I think it's ridiculous," Mr. Trump said. AFP

NAIROBI

Ten dead in Kenya during protests following heavy police deployment

GETTY IMAGES

Ten persons died across Kenya during anti-government protests on Monday, a rights group said, following clashes between the police and protesters on the capital Nairobi's outskirts. The Kenyan National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) also accused the police of cooperating with criminal gangs. AFP

WASHINGTON

U.S. revokes 'foreign terrorist group' designation for Syria's HTS

AP

The U.S. said it was revoking its designation as a "foreign terrorist organisation" of Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), a group once linked to al-Qaeda that took control of Syria in December. U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio made the announcement in a memo, with the move to formally take effect on Tuesday. AFP

At least 10 killed, 38 injured as Russia launches over 100 drones at Ukraine

Kremlin dismisses its transportation chief after a weekend of travel chaos; Moscow captures its first village in Ukraine's Dnipropetrovsk region; Kyiv signs deals with European allies and a U.S. defence company to step up drone production

Associated Press
KYIV

Russia fired more than 100 drones at civilian areas of Ukraine overnight, authorities said on Monday, as the Kremlin dismissed its transportation chief after a weekend of travel chaos when airports grounded hundreds of flights during the busy vacation season due to the threat of attacks from Kyiv.

At least 10 civilians were killed and 38 injured, including three children, in Russian attacks over the previous 24 hours, Ukrainian officials said.

Russia said it captured its first village in Ukraine's central Dnipropetrovsk region after grinding towards the border for months, dealing a psychological blow for Kyiv as its worries mount.

Smouldering house: A building hit by Russian drone strike in Zaporizhzhia in Ukraine on Monday. REUTERS

The Russian Defence Ministry said its forces captured the village of Dachne in the Dnipropetrovsk region, an important industrial mining territory that has also come under mounting Russian air attacks.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Saturday that Ukraine had signed deals with European allies and a leading U.S. defence company to step up drone production, ensuring Kyiv receives "hundreds of thousands" more this year.

"Air defence is the main thing for protecting life," Mr. Zelenskyy wrote on Telegram on Monday. That includes developing and manufacturing interceptor drones that can stop Russia's long-range Shahed drones, he said.

Extensive use of drones has also helped Ukraine compensate for its troop shortages on the front line.

Russian President Vladimir Putin dismissed Transport Minister Roman Starovoyt on Monday, who later killed himself. His body was found in the Moscow suburb of Odintsovo. Mr. Putin named Mr. Starovoyt's deputy, Andrey Nikitin, as Acting Transport Minister. Nikitkin was the governor of Russia's Novgorod region until February.

Over the weekend, hundreds of flights were canceled or delayed at Moscow's Sheremetyevo and St. Petersburg's Pulkovo airports, and thousands of travelers faced long waits. Other airports in western and central Russia also faced disruptions because of Ukrainian drone attacks.

Iran President is still open to talks with U.S., accuses Israel of assassination attempt

Reuters
WASHINGTON

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said he believes Iran can resolve its differences with the United States through dialogue, but trust would be an issue after U.S. and Israeli attacks on his country, according to an interview released on Monday.

"I am of the belief that we could very much easily resolve our differences and conflicts with the U.S. through talks," Mr. Pezeshkian told conservative U.S. podcaster Tucker Carlson in an interview conducted on Saturday.

The Iranian leader urged U.S. President Donald Trump not to be drawn into war with Iran by Israeli leader Benjamin Netanyahu, who is visiting Washington on Monday for talks at the White House.

Masoud Pezeshkian

"The United States' President, Mr. Trump, he is capable enough to guide the region towards peace and a brighter future and put Israel in its place. Or get into a pit, an endless pit, or a swamp," Mr. Pezeshkian said. "So it is up to the United States President to choose which path," he added.

'Blame on Israel'

He blamed Israel, Iran's arch-enemy, for the collapse of talks that were in place when Israel began its strikes on Iran on June 13, starting a 12-day air war with Israel in which top Iranian commanders and nuclear scientists were killed. "How are we going to trust the U.S. again?" Mr. Pezeshkian said. "How can we know for sure that in the middle of the talks the Israeli regime will not be given the permission again to attack us?"

Mr. Pezeshkian also said that Israel tried to assassinate him. "They did try, yes," he said. "They acted accordingly, but they failed."

Bangladesh lawyers seek to quash ex-PM Hasina's murder trial

Agence France-Presse
DHAKA

State-appointed defence lawyers sought on Monday to throw out the charges against Bangladesh's convicted former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in her crimes against humanity trial.

Up to 1,400 people were killed between July and August last year, according to the United Nations, when Ms. Hasina's government ordered a crackdown on protesters in a failed bid to cling to power.

"I sought discharge from all the allegations... as they appear false, fabricated and politically motivated," Md Amir Hossain said. He added that he had not been able to speak to Ms. Hasina directly.

Prosecutors say that Ms. Hasina held overall command responsibility for the violence. Prosecutors have filed five charges against her – including failure to prevent mass murder – which amount to crimes against humanity under Bangladeshi law. The trial resumes on July 10.

Trump slaps allies Japan and South Korea with 25% tariffs

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

Trump to sign an order delaying the deadline for steeper tariffs to take effect from August 1

U.S. President Donald Trump threatened Japan and South Korea with 25% tariffs, stepping up pressure on the two historical U.S. allies and a dozen other economies to reach trade deals with the U.S.

In near-identically worded letters to the Japanese and South Korean leaders, Mr. Trump said the tariffs would apply from August 1 because their trading relationships with Washington were "unfortunately, far from Reciprocal."

White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt told reporters that Mr. Trump would sign an order later in the day to delay his July 9 deadline for steeper tariffs to take effect – postponing their imposition to August 1.

Macron due in the U.K., as London tries to balance ties with Europe, U.S.

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

French President Emmanuel Macron and First Lady Brigitte Macron are due to arrive in London on Tuesday for a state visit, hosted by Britain's monarch Charles III and the Queen, Camilla. This is the first European head of state to be hosted by King Charles on a State visit, and an indication that the ties between London and Paris, which were under strain due to Britain's departure from the EU, have thawed.

While business is transacted during State visits, the ceremonial aspects and State dinner are instruments of the host country's soft power and used to bolster culture ties between the countries. The three-day visit will culminate in a summit level meeting led by Mr. Macron and U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer on Thursday. The visit comes at a time when the U.K. is trying to balance its ties with the EU and the U.S., as President Donald Trump has overseen a downgrading of ties between the U.S. and the EU.

Emmanuel Macron

Anglo-French security and defence ties, which are governed by the Lancaster House treaties of 2010, will be updated during the summit, as per a statement by French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot in France's National Assembly. Mr. Barrot cited London and Paris cooperating on Ukraine's defence (by leading a group of mostly European countries called the 'Coalition of the Willing').

He also mentioned the two countries coordinating responses on Iran along with Germany, which, according to him, paved the way for negotiations (i.e., the June 20 negotiations in Geneva). Mr. Barrot also highlighted cooperation on the crisis in Sudan. The visit will also see politically sensitive issues discussed – such as fishing and migration. The U.K. and the EU recently concluded an agreement allowing reciprocal access to fishing waters until 2038.

On Tuesday, the French first couple will be welcomed on arrival by Prince William and Catherine Middleton, the Prince and Princess of Wales, before being taken to Windsor Castle, just outside London, where they will be hosted by the King and the Queen. The visit will include a carriage ride through the town of Windsor and a state dinner. Mr. Macron is scheduled to address the U.K. parliament on Wednesday.

Mr. Trump, who has expressed a fondness for the British Royal Family, has also been invited to the U.K. on a state visit, his second such visit, since 2019, when he was hosted by Queen Elizabeth. Mr. Trump's second visit is expected in September, though no dates have been announced.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer,
PWD Bangalore Division, 2nd Floor, PWD Annexure
Building, K.R.Circle, Bangalore-01. Ph: 080-22133370,
E-mail ID: eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com, Website:www.kpwd.gov.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಕಾನಿಇಂ/ಟೋ.ಇ/ಬೆಂವಿ/2025–26/1241 ದಿನಾಂಕ:05.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION - 10

E-Portal:https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home

Item-rate tenders, for the work in **PWD No.2 North & Hosakote** Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D as per KPPP. Tender Notification are Published **for 10 works (Rs.100.00 to 490.00 Lakhs)** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days.

EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in KPP portal.

1. Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM on Dated 21.07.2025.**
2. The opening of tenders through KPP portal on **Dated 22.07.2025 at 4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimate.

For more details contact this Office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DIPR/CP/AAA/1672/2025-26 **PWD, Bangalore Division, Bangalore.**

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (QA/QC) Division, Mahadevapura Zone,
Room No. 101, Annex-3 Building, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bangalore - 560 002.

No.EE(QA/QC)/MDP/TEND/09/25-26 Date: 07.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through GOK KP-Procurement Portal only) (Two Cover System)

The Executive Engineer, QA/QC Division, Mahadevapura Zone, invites Request for Proposal from interested persons/firms those who have done similar type of works for Consultancy Services for Project Management including Supervision, Quality Control (PMC) for the works detailed in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of Work
1	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality control for "Construction of flood protection structures to SWD including RCC Retaining walls, Water retention structures, Nature based solution structures, Culvert and Bridges under Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Programme (KWSRP) with externally funded projects (World Bank) in Mahadevapura Constituency Mahadevapura Zone". **(Package-01) .** **Cost of Work: Rs. 8,506.71 Lakhs. EMD : Rs. 1,70,500/-.**

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 09.07.2025 onwards. 2)** Pre bid Meeting: **14.07.2025 at 11:30 AM. 3)** Last date for submission of Tender: **21.07.2025 upto 4:00 PM. 4)** Opening of Technical bid: **22.07.2025 at 4:30 PM.** Further details can be obtained from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and office of the Undersigned.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
QA / QC Division, Mahadevapura Zone.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (QA/QC) Division,
Dasarahalli Zone, Room No. 101, Annex-3 Building,
BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002.

No. EE(QA/QC)/DAS/TEND/02/25-26 Date: 07.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (2nd Call)

Two Cover System (Only through GoK KPP Portal)

The Executive Engineer, Quality Assurance / Quality Control Division, Dasarahalli Zone, BBMP, Bengaluru on behalf the Chief Commissioner, BBMP invites Request for Proposal from interested Persons / Firms those who have similar type of work for Consultancy Services for Project Management including Supervision, Quality Control (PMC)" for the below work.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Project Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality control for "Construction of flood protection structures to SWD including RCC Retaining walls, Water retention structures, Nature based solution and Culvert under structures / Bridges under Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Programme (KWSRP) with externally funded project (World Bank) in Dasarahalli Zone - Package-01 (Call-2).	20861.00	2,49,570/-

Time Period : **Till completion of the project.**

Calendar of Events: **(1)** Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 09.07.2025. (2)** Date of Pre-bid meeting : **14.07.2025 at 3.00 pm. (3)** Last date & time for receipt of tenders : **21.07.2025 upto 4.00 pm**. **(4)** Date of opening of technical bid : **22.07.2025 at 4.30 pm. (5)** Validity of tender : **90 days from last date of receipts of tender.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer (QA/QC)
Dasarahalli Zone, BBMP

KMF Karnataka Co-Operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
KMF Complex: Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road,
DRC Post, Bangalore-560 029.
Tel: 080-25536625 / 25536789 Fax: 080-25536105

IFT No: KMF/ENGG/NHMPP-Batteries/2103/2025-26 Date: 07-07-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
[TWO COVER SYSTEM] [THROUGH KPP PORTAL ONLY]

Karnataka Milk Federation Ltd, Bangalore invites tender from the eligible Contractors/ Firms through KPP-Portal for the works mentioned in the table below. The interested and reputed Manufacturer/firms who have handled similar kind of works may participate in the tender as indicated below, by logging on to website https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and also contact Help desk E-mail; hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com and helpline no. 080-25501227/ 25501216.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Qty.	EMD in Rs.	Period of contract
1	Supply, installation & commissioning of 12V, 200Ah rechargeable 620 Nos batteries for online UPS on buy back basis at NHMPP, Ramanagar.	1 JOB	2,00,000/-	2 Months

1. Tender may be downloaded from dated: 08-07-2025 to 23-07-2025 up to 4:00 pm.
2. Last date for Tender submission on date: 23-07-2025 up to 4:00 pm.
3. Pre –bid meeting on 14-07-2025 at 11-30 AM
4. Tender [Part 1] to be opened on date: 24-07-2025 up to 4:30 pm.

For Karnataka Milk Federation Limited
Sd/- Director [Engineering-2]

BACK IN THE MIX

England adds speedster Atkinson to the squad for Lord's Test

GETTY IMAGES

England on Sunday added pacer Gus Atkinson to its squad for the third Test against India. **The squad:** Ben Stokes (Capt.), Jofra Archer, Gus Atkinson, Shoaib Bashir, Jacob Bethell, Harry Brook, Brydon Carse, Sam Cook, Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Jamie Overton, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Jamie Smith, Josh Tongue and Chris Woakes.

SPEED FACTOR

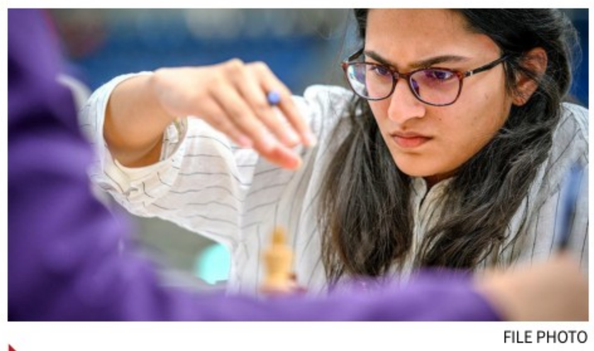
Hugely exciting to have Archer in the team, says coach McCullum

AP

England coach Brendon McCullum says Jofra Archer is "ready to go" for the third Test against India. "It's hugely exciting, he's buzzing as well," said McCullum, adding that he wants "a pitch with a bit more pace, a bit more bounce, and maybe a little bit of sideways movement" from MCC head groundsman Karl McDermott at Lord's.

GOOD DAY

Vantika, Padmini and Nandhidhaa advance at Women's World Cup



FILE PHOTO

India's Vantika Agrawal, *in pic.*, Padmini Rout and P.V. Nandhidhaa entered the round of 64 at the FIDE Women's World Cup on Monday. **Indian results (round one):** Yuxin (Chn) bt Kiran Manisha Mohanty 1.5-0.5; Shohradova (Tkm) lost to Vantika 0.5-1.5; Padmini bt Zhang (Chn) 2-0; Ortiz Verdezoto (Ecu) lost to Nandhidhaa 0-2.

LIGHTNING FAST

Belgian Merlier wins crash-marred Tour de France stage three

AFP

Belgian Tim Merlier pipped Italian Jonathan Milan right at the line to win stage three of the Tour de France at Dunkirk on Monday, as Mathieu van der Poel retained the lead. The stage was marred by a series of falls, but T. Pogacar and J. Vingegaard finished second and third overall behind Van der Poel.

Siraj, Akash make the ball talk on a lifeless Edgbaston pitch

The two destroy England by claiming 17 of the 20 wickets in lead pacer Bumrah's absence as India pulls level in the series; the fast-bowling pair's ability to strike under constricting circumstances and small windows speak volumes about their skill

INDIA IN ENGLAND

N. Sudarshan
BIRMINGHAM

The mark of a top sportsperson is to excel when faced with severe limitations. In the just-concluded second Test that India won by 336 runs against England, Mohammed Siraj and Akash Deep proved that they were of that variety.

On a mostly lifeless Edgbaston pitch, the fast-bowling pair destroyed England by claiming 17 of the 20 wickets.

Siraj secured a match haul of seven for 127 while Akash a career-best 10 for 187.

Near-zero swing

The conditions were nowhere close to what one expects in the Old Blighty. There was little seam movement and near-zero swing, and the Dukes ball appeared to lose shape after 20-odd overs.

To strike under constricted circumstances and small windows spoke volumes of their skill. In football terms, it was like having an Expected Goals metric of 1, which means you score a goal with every chance you create.

Until the start of the Birmingham Test, only Jasprit Bumrah was said to possess this quality. Leeds, where India lost the opening Test by five wickets, bore testament to this. And when India chose to rest the 31-year-old for the second tie to manage his workload better, it seemed like a costly gamble.

Breathing fire: Siraj and Akash combined to wreck England in the second Test. GETTY IMAGES

Brand new cherry

It was to Siraj's and Akash's credit that it paid off as India maximised its opportunities while bowling with a brand new cherry.

In the first innings, the duo left England reeling at 25 for three (7.1 overs) and then 84 for five (21.4) before taking the second new ball at 80.2 overs and gobbling up the last five batters for just 20 runs (89.3). In the second essay, it was 50 for three (10.2) and 83 for five (21.3).

If one needed a stamping-of-the-authority moment, it was Akash's dismissal of talisman Joe Root late on Saturday, the wicket captain Shubman Gill said was the turning point. The ball straightened after being delivered from slightly wide and rattled the off-stump to leave Root nearly floored. Akash then gestured with his hand that he was here to stay.

Pleasing sign

"It is a pleasing sign from a growing bowling attack," India bowling coach Morne Morkel said on that day.

"Akash is an attacking bowler who asks questions by bowling at the stumps a lot. That's one of the golden rules here in England – to ask questions in the [line of the] stumps. Coming back from his [back] injury and running in with high pace... it's a nice sign for us."

Tireless operator

For Siraj, the five-wicket performance in the first innings (six for 70) would have brought great relief.

A tireless operator who played all five Tests in Australia in the most recent Border-Gavaskar Trophy, he has often lacked luck.

The 31-year-old took 20 wickets Down Under but not one five-wicket haul. The Edgbaston effort was his first five-for in 15 Tests since the six for 15 against South Africa in Cape Town in January 2024.

"He will always push his body to the limit," Morkel said of Siraj. "Sometimes the guilty part of him is trying too hard. It's about managing the aggression and intensity because he really bowls with his heart on his sleeve.

"In a match where he's the leader of the attack, he got the wickets. But in terms of effort and energy, and with a sore body, he will always put his hand up. I don't think we give him enough credit for that," the South African added.

Mammoth knock: Skipper Mulder's unbeaten 367 is the fifth-highest score in Tests.

Mulder declares 33 short of Lara's 400!

SA IN ZIMBABWE

Associated Press
BULAWAYO

Wiaan Mulder sacrificed a shot at one of cricket's most hallowed records to start mopping up Zimbabwe in the second Test at Queens Sports Club on Monday.

The South Africa captain was on 367, just 33 runs away from tying the highest individual Test score, Brian Lara's 400 not out 21 years ago, when he stopped his epic innings and declared at lunch with South Africa on 626 for five.

He then chipped in with two wickets in consecutive overs and a catch to bowl out Zimbabwe for 170, enforced the follow-on, and had Zimbabwe 51 for one in the second innings at stumps.

Already 1-0 up in the short series, South Africa was 405 runs ahead and gearing toward wrapping up another three-day win on Tuesday.

Mulder finished with the fifth-highest score in Tests, and the highest by a South African. Mulder's 334-ball knock (49x4, 4x6) came in just under seven hours.

> Firstly, I thought we had enough and we needed to bowl. Secondly, Brian Lara is a legend. For someone of that stature to keep that record is deserved
> MULDER

"Firstly, I thought we had enough and we needed to bowl.

"Secondly, Brian Lara is a legend. For someone of that stature to keep that record is deserved," Mulder said after stumps.

"If I get the chance to do it again, I'd do it exactly the same way. I spoke to Shuks (Shukri Conrad), and he felt the same way. Brian Lara is a legend, and he deserves to keep that record."

Lara remains the only batter to score 400 in a Test innings, which he achieved against England at Antigua in 2004.

The scores:
South Africa 626/5 decl. in 114 overs (Mulder 367 n.o.) vs Zimbabwe 170 in 43 overs (Williams 83 n.o., Subrayen 4/42) & 51/1 in 16 overs.

SNAPSHOTS

World Boxing extends BFI's interim committee till August 31

NEW DELHI: World Boxing, impressed by the steps taken to ensure transparency and stability in the Indian boxing administration, has extended the tenure of the Boxing Federation of India's (BFI) interim committee till August 31.
The interim committee, headed by Ajay Singh, was appointed in April this year to manage the day-to-day affairs of boxing in India.
Since its appointment, the committee has conducted structured National championships, followed by international tournaments across all age groups (under-15, under-17 and elite), adopting an 'athletes first' approach during its
initial 90-day term.
In a letter addressed to Ajay on Monday, World Boxing president Boris van der Vorst congratulated the interim committee for their 'athletes first' approach that has ensured continuous participation of Indian boxers in major international events with podium finishes.

Consolation win for England under-19

WORCESTER: England u-19 defeated India u-19 by seven wickets in the fifth and final one-dayer on Monday.
India clinched the series 3-2.
The scores:
India u-19 210/9 in 50 overs (Suryavanshi 33, Ambrish 66 n.o.) lost to England u-19 211/3 in 31.1 overs (Dawkins 66, Mayes 82 n.o., Rew 49 n.o.).
Toss: India.

Djokovic and Alcaraz battle their way ahead

WIMBLEDON

Agencies
LONDON

Novak Djokovic overcame a sluggish start against Alex de Minaur to reach his 16th Wimbledon quarterfinal under the gaze of eight-time winner Roger Federer on Monday.

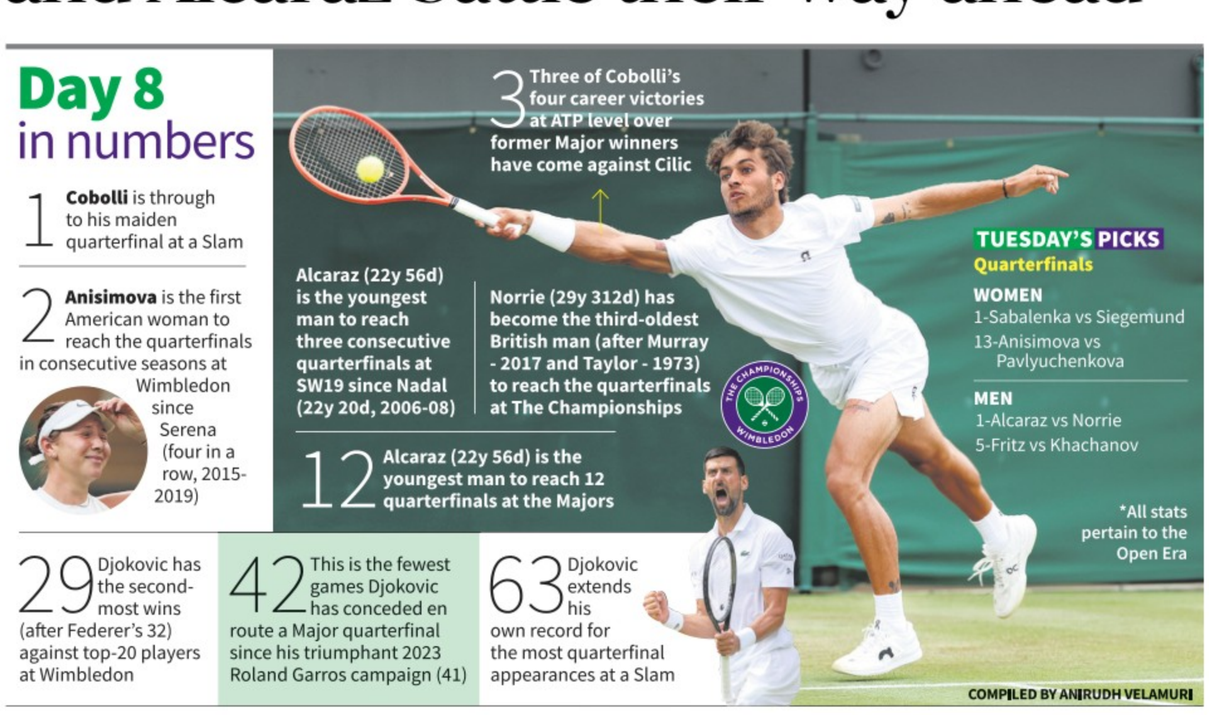
The Serb was lethargic and unusually tentative in the early stages of his last 16 match against the Australian 11th seed on Centre Court but eventually found his rhythm to win 1-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

Djokovic will play 22nd seed Flavio Cobolli in the last eight. Cobolli held off a fightback from the 2017 runner-up Marin Cilic to win 6-4, 6-4, 6-7(4), 7-6(3).

Later, American 10th seed Ben Shelton reached the quarterfinals for the first time with a 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (1), 7-5 victory over Italian Lorenzo Sonego.

In the women's section, the 18-year-old Mirra Andreeva powered her way into her first Wimbledon quarterfinal with a 6-2, 6-3 win over Emma Navarro and became the youngest player in the last eight of women's singles since 2005. Russian 19th seed Liudmila Samsonova also booked her first-ever Grand Slam quarterfinal berth, beating Spain's Jessica Bouzas Maneiro 7-5, 7-5.

On Sunday, Carlos Alcaraz found his best form after a shaky start to beat Andrey Rublev 6-7(5), 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 and set up a last eight meeting with Cameron Norrie. Meanwhile, Yuki Bhambri's campaign ended on Monday after he lost his doubles third round match. The Indian had crashed out of the mixed doubles on Sunday.



THE RESULTS

Men: Fourth round: 10-Shelton (USA) bt Sonego (Ita) 3-6, 6-1, 7-6(1), 7-5; 6-Djokovic (Srb) bt 11-de Minaur (Aus) 1-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4; 22-Cobolli (Ita) bt Cilic (Cro) 6-4, 6-4, 6-7(4), 7-6 (3); 2-Alcaraz (Esp) bt 14-Rublev (Rus) 6-7(5), 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

Doubles: Third round: 4-Granollers (Esp) & Zeballos (Arg) bt 16-Yuki (Ind) & Galloway (USA) 6-4, 3-6, 7-6(4).
Women: Fourth round: 7-Andreeva (Rus) bt 10-Navarro (USA) 6-2, 6-3; 19-Samsonova (Rus) bt Bouzas (Esp) 7-5, 7-5; Bencic (Sui) bt 18-Alexandrova (Rus) 7-6(4), 6-4; 13-Anisimova (USA) bt 30-Noskova (Cze) 6-2, 5-7, 6-4.
Mixed doubles: Third round: 2-Zhang (Chn) & Arevalo-Gonzalez (ESA) bt Yuki (Ind) & Xinyu (Chn) 7-6(6), 6-3.

Amritraj enthused by Sinner-Alcaraz rivalry

C. Shyam Sundar

Tennis legend Vijay Amritraj says he believes that the rivalry between World No. 1 Jannik Sinner and No. 2 Carlos Alcaraz has the potential to reach great heights.

"I think the Sinner-Alcaraz rivalry has developed into a good one as the last six Grand Slams have been won between them," said Amritraj, a JioStar Wimbledon expert, at a virtual media interaction.

Close contests: The Sinner-Alcaraz matches have been a treat to watch for the fans. AP

Who will it be?

Asked if Sinner and Alcaraz had the best chance to win at The Championships this year, he felt that Novak Djokovic's presence had to be taken into consideration.

According to him, the Serb's potential semifinal clash against Sinner, if both make the grade, would be an exciting encounter.

"Djokovic is clearly in the mix at this point, hanging on, especially on grass. So it's going to be interesting to see how the rest of the week progresses. If Djokovic reaches the semifinal and so does Sinner, that would be the match to watch," Amritraj said.

On who (Sinner or Alcaraz) would go on to become a 'bigger' player, Amritraj opined: "It depends so much on injuries, physical capabilities, desire and work ethic. I think both of them have shown beyond reasonable doubt that they have the talent and work ethic at this point.

"It's also a question of remaining physically well and strong," he added.

Amritraj lamented the fact that India did not have any representation in the singles event at this year's Wimbledon. He hoped that the country's top player Sumit Nagal would bounce back from his slump.

Tough, but...

"It can be tough, but it is possible," said Amritraj about Nagal, who has slipped to 296 in the ATP rankings (as of June 30).

INBRIEF

Former Croatia midfielder Rakitic retires aged 37

Former Croatia international Ivan Rakitic, who spent much of his career with Barcelona and Sevilla, announced his retirement from football on Monday aged 37. "Football, you gave me more than I ever dreamed of. You gave me friends, emotions, joy and tears," Rakitic posted on social media. "Now it's time to say goodbye. Thank you, football. For everything." Rakitic, who began his career with Basel and later moved to Schalke, played 106 times for Croatia and started his country's World Cup final loss to France in 2018.

Former Karnataka footballer Stephen passes away at 38

Former Karnataka State footballer Stephen passed away on Monday. He was 38. Stephen represented Karnataka in the 2011 and 2012 Santosh Trophy. A fine striker, Stephen represented BEML (KGF) under Raman Vijayan and South United FC. He later turned out for Sree Gajanana FC as a player-coach.

Chennai Bulls wins Equestrian Champions League

Chennai Bulls tallied 109 points for the top spot in the inaugural edition of the Equestrian Champions League, organised by Equine Sports India Federation and Indigenous Horse Society, Tamil Nadu, in Coimbatore on Sunday. Bulls performed well right through and were richer by ₹15 lakh. Pegasus Sports (₹10 lakh) and Golconda Chargers (₹5 lakh) followed in that order.

Final standings: 1. Chennai Bulls 109 pts, 2. Pegasus Sports 97, 3. Golconda Chargers 73, 4. Quantum Reins 66, 5. Bangalore Knights 62, 6. Elite Equestrian 53.

Prithvi Shaw formally joins Maharashtra

Prithvi Shaw, the dashing opener whose fortunes have not been good for sometime, has formally joined Maharashtra in a bid to revive his career. Shaw, who was dropped from Mumbai's team midway through the last season, had obtained the No Objection Certificate from the Mumbai Cricket Association last week. On Monday, the Maharashtra Cricket Association (MCA) welcomed him aboard.

Sai Kishore to play two matches for Surrey

India left-arm spinner R. Sai Kishore has signed for English county side Surrey for two championship fixtures later this month. He will play for Surrey against Yorkshire (July 22-25) and Durham (July 29-August 1).

Ganemat Sekhon eyes final berth at Shotgun World Cup

Ganemat Sekhon put herself close to the top with the third best score of 96 after four rounds of women's skeet at Shotgun World Cup in Lonato on Monday. In men's skeet, Bhavtegh Gill shot 98 (23, 25, 25, 25). Anantjeet Singh Naruka had 95.

LIVE TELECAST

Zimbabwe vs South Africa: 2nd Test, day 3, FanCode, 1.30 p.m.

Sri Lanka vs Bangladesh: 3rd ODI, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 2.30 p.m.

Wimbledon: Star Sports 1, SS Select 1, 2 & JioHotstar, 5.30 p.m.

Silva's Fluminense faces vibrant Chelsea for a place in the final

The Brazilian side comes into the semifinal after an impressive run; the Premier League team gets its first taste of MetLife Stadium

CLUB WORLD CUP

Agence France-Presse
EAST RUTHERFORD

Chelsea's young side is targeting a place in the final of the Club World Cup when it takes on Fluminense in the last four on Tuesday, with the Brazilian team marshalled by former Blues defender Thiago Silva.

Silva was already a veteran when he signed for Chelsea in 2020 before going on to have an impressive four-year stint at Stamford Bridge.

An impressive run in the tournament has seen Fluminense hold Borussia Dortmund in the group stage, eliminate Inter Milan in the last 16 and get the better of Saudi powerhouse Al Hilal in the quarterfinals. "If you had asked me beforehand if we would have got this far, I would have said we were a long way away from doing so," Silva said after the victory over Al Hilal.

Chelsea now gets its first taste of the MetLife Stadium, the hulking 82,500-capacity venue in East Rutherford, New Jersey, just outside New York City.

Many of coach Enzo Maresca's players may not have been sure what to make of FIFA's new tournament which came at the end of a campaign in which it finished fourth in the Premier League and won the UEFA Conference League.

But suddenly the side stands one game from the final, in which it would face either Real Madrid or PSG. With Silva gone, Maresca has been working with a young squad at Chelsea, and the average age of his starting line-up against Palmeiras last Friday was just 24.

There are more young players coming in too, with 23-year-old Brazilian forward Joao Pedro, formerly of Fluminense, making his debut in the quarterfinals.

Brazil prodigy Estevao Willian, 18, will join from Palmeiras ahead of next season and 20-year-old winger Jamie Gittens has just signed from Borussia Dortmund.

Moises Caicedo, the midfield linchpin who is still only 23, will return to the midfield against Fluminense after suspension.

Match starts at 00.30 hrs IST (Wednesday), live on DAZN.

Familiar foe: Silva will have a point to prove against his old club Chelsea. AFP

Mexico wins CONCACAF Gold Cup for record-extending 10th time

Agence France Presse
HOUSTON

Mexico defeated USA 2-1 to retain the CONCACAF Gold Cup and lift the title for a record-extending 10th time on Sunday.

An Edson Alvarez header 13 minutes from time completed a come-from-behind victory for Mexico after a typically hard-fought tussle between the North American arch-rivals.

The win was no less than Mexico deserved after dominating for long periods against Mauricio Pochettino's inexperienced USA side, which went into the tournament missing several first-choice regulars. Jimenez celebrated by producing a shirt bearing the name and number 20 of late former Wolverhampton Wanderers teammate Diogo Jota, the Liverpool and Portugal star who died in a car crash in Spain last week.

Cup of joy: Mexico proved the better side in the title clash. AFP

In the second-half, Mexico looked the more threatening side as USA struggled to create anything at the other end.

The breakthrough finally came though in the 77th minute when Johan Vazquez's flick-on from a free-kick was met by Alvarez who powered a header into the net past Freese.

The result: Final: USA 1 (Chris Richards 4) lost to Mexico 2 (Raul Jimenez 27, Edson Alvarez 77).

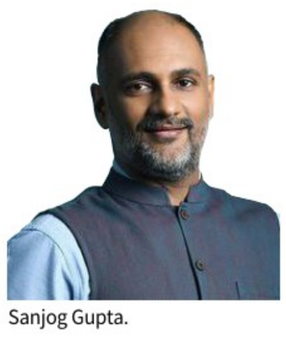
Sanjog Gupta named new CEO of ICC

CRICKET

Press Trust of India
DUBAI

Indian media mogul Sanjog Gupta was on Monday named the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Jay Shah-led International Cricket Council (ICC), replacing Australian Geoff Allardice, who stepped down before the Champions Trophy earlier this year citing personal reasons.

Gupta, who was serving as the CEO (Sports & Live Experiences) at JioStar, will be taking charge of his new role with immediate effect. He will be the seventh CEO of the ICC, which said it received more than 2,500 applications from 25 countries from which 12 candidates were shortlisted.



Sanjog Gupta.

The names were forwarded to the Nominations Committee comprising ICC deputy chairman Imran Khwaja, ECB chairman Richard Thompson, SLC president Shammi Silva and BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia.

They recommended Gupta for the role which was approved by ICC chairman Jay Shah.

Mehuli, Kiran and Esha make teams for Asians and World Cup

SHOOTING

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Mehuli Ghosh, Kiran Jadhav and Esha Singh are the three shooters common in both the Indian squad for the Asian Championship in Kazakhstan and the World Cup in China.

In the teams announced by the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) on Monday, Mehuli makes the Asian team in air rifle, and the World Cup team in rifle 3-position event.

Similarly, Kiran has made the air rifle team for Asian event and the rifle 3-position event for the World Cup.

Suruchi Phogat will compete in the Asian Championship along with Asian Games champion Palak Gulia and double Olympic medallist Manu Bhaker.

Manu will shoot sports pistol as well and will have Esha and Simranpreet Kaur Brar in the team.

Esha will compete in air pistol in the World Cup along with Rhythm Sangwan and Surbhi Rao. The last World Cup in rifle and pistol will be staged in Ningbo, China, from September 7 to 15.

The Asian Championship will be hosted in Shymkent, Kazakhstan, from August 16 to 30.

The teams: Men: World Cup: Air rifle: Umamahesh Maddineni, Divyansh Singh Panwar, Niraj Kumar. **50m rifle 3-position:** Swapnil Kusale, Babu Singh Panwar, Kiran Jadhav. **Air pistol:** Amit Sharma, Nishant Rawat, Samrat Rana. **Rapid fire pistol:** Bhavesh Shekhawat, Pradeep Shekhawat, Mandeep Singh. **Asian Championship: Air rifle:** Rudrankksh Patil, Arjun Babuta, Kiran Jadhav. **50m rifle 3-position:** Chain Singh, Akhil Sheoran, Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar. **Air pistol:** Saurabh Chaudhary, Aditya Malra, Anmol Jain. **Rapid fire pistol:** Anish Bhanwala, Neeraj Kumar, Adarsh Singh. **Trap:** Lakshay Sheoran, Kynan Chenai, Bhowneesh Mendiratta. **Skeet:** Abhay Singh Sekhon, Bhavtegh Singh Gill, Anantjeet Singh Naruka. **Women: World Cup: Air rifle:** Ramita Jindal, Meghana Sajjanar, Kashika Pradhan. **50m rifle 3-position:** Mehuli Ghosh, Surabhi Bhardwaj, Manini Kaushik. **Air pistol:** Surbhi Rao, Rhythm Sangwan, Esha Singh. **Sports pistol:** Rahi Sarnobat, Abhidnya Patil, T.S. Divya. **Asian Championship: Air rifle:** Mehuli Ghosh, Elavenil Valarivan, Ananya Naidu. **50m rifle 3-position:** Sift Kaur Samra, Ashi Chouksey, Anjum Moudgil. **Air pistol:** Suruchi Phogat, Palak Gulia, Manu Bhaker. **Sports pistol:** Manu Bhaker, Simranpreet Kaur Brar, Esha Singh. **Trap:** Neeru, Aashima Ahlawat, Preeti Rajak. **Skeet:** Ganemat Sekhon, Raiza Dhillon, Maheshwari Chauhan.

Durand Cup from July 23 sans some ISL sides

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

Emami East Bengal FC will take on Bengaluru-based South United FC in the opening fixture of the 134th edition of Durand Cup football tournament which gets underway at the Salt Lake Stadium on July 23.

Positioned as the season-opener of Indian football ever since it moved out of Delhi, the Durand Cup this year will be held across five cities in the East and North Eastern States during group league stage.

The group league stage comprises six groups of four teams each, with every group having six matches. The group winners and two best second-placed teams will progress to the quarterfinals, set for August 16 and 17.

The semifinals are scheduled for August 19 and 20 and the grand finale on August 23. The venues for the knockout rounds are yet to be identified.

Uncertainty

What seems to be taking the sheen out of this year's edition is the absence of many Indian Super League teams, which have been participating in full strength for the last few years. This may have happened due to the uncertainty over the future of the Indian Super League, which has seen many of the franchises holding back the start of their preseason preparations.

Among the ISL teams taking part are the three Kolkata sides – Mohun Bagan Super Giant, Emami East Bengal and Mohammedan Sporting FC - along with Jamshedpur FC, NorthEast United FC and Punjab FC. The other participants include a few sides from the I-League and different services teams.

Coaches see room for improvement after creditable show in World Boxing Cup

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

With the selection for the World championships approaching fast, the Indian boxers' performance in the second World Boxing Cup in Astana, Kazakhstan, has helped the coaches assess the situation well.

Following the International Olympic Committee (IOC) decision to recognise a new international federation (World Boxing) in February and retain boxing in the 2028 Olympics, the newly formed body has scheduled its first World championships in Liverpool from September 4 to 14.

Building up for the elite competition, notwithstanding the fact that Boxing Federation of India is run by an interim committee due to issues over its pending elections, the country's boxers gave their best in Astana and would hope to gain crucial ranking points.

While two-time World youth champion Sakshi Choudhary (54kg), Olympian Jaismine Lamboria (57kg) and multiple National champion Nupur Sheoran (80+kg) secured gold, Meenakshi (48kg) and Olympian Pooja Rani (80kg), who returned to action in the National championships, took silver and Sanju (60kg) claimed a bronze.

Among men, Abinash Jamwal (65kg), Hitesh Gulia (70kg) and Jugnoo (85kg) won silver, while Nikhil Dubey (75kg) and Narender Berwal (90+kg) got bronze.

Right track

While praising the boxers' performance in quality fields, featuring Olympians and professional boxers from top nations, women's head coach D. Chandralal said: "We focused on discipline, endurance and strength. Initially, the girls found it difficult but got adjusted to it. We are on the right track, but we have a long way to go.

"Nikhat Zareen, Preeti Pawar have joined the camp, Lovlina (Borgohain) will join. Parveen Hooda will complete her doping ban and will join."

Men's head coach Dharmendra Yadav expressed satisfaction over some boxers' showing. "We tried to instil a positive attitude and self-belief in our boxers and focused on endurance. We need to work on a few areas," said Yadav.

Yadav informed that Worlds medallists Amit Panghal and Deepak Bhoria might not make it to the selection evaluation for the Worlds because of their recent performances.

Of two other Worlds medallists, Mohammed Hussamuddin is on the path of recovery while Nishant Dev, who turned professional in the USA, may return to the National fold later.